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Canada eyes post-election climate deal

U.S. Canada hopes to negotiate a North American climate-change deal with U.S. president-elect Barack Obama and will begin working on the file within weeks, Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said yesterday.

Meantime, officials said the Harper government is waiting for the departure of President George W. Bush to work with his successor on an integrated carbon market, and that the government has been eyeing a continent-wide solution for a while.

Cannon confirmed the issue will be a priority. He said the Conservatives will make Canada's positions on the environment known to the new administration.

"We will be able to tackle this file on the North American level — on a continental level," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Style pg 31

Invest in warm winter wear

Metro Homes pg 19

Bond style in Forest Hill

Party Planner pg 39

Must-haves for holidays

JIM WILKES/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

An officer watches as co-worker Pat Fergusson comforts Angelika Crisp, front, mother of missing Barrie teen Brandon Crisp, outside the family's Hickling Trail home. A body believed to be Brandon was found a few kilometres from where his bike was found last month.

Search for Brandon ends in heartache

Hunters find body believed to be that of runaway teen

It was a heartbreaking end to a remarkable three-week search for a teen who had run away over an Xbox.

On the ground, hundreds of police and volunteers trudged through muddy fields outside Barrie while in cyberspace police officers probed the virtual world of online gaming.

But yesterday morning, all hope of finding 15-year-old Brandon Crisp alive was lost when deer hunters found the body of a teen in a heavily wooded area. Police said the body, which appears to be Brandon, was found near a trail in Oro-Medonte Township, northeast of Barrie, just two kilometres from where the boy's abandoned bicycle was found two weeks earlier.

Brandon Crisp

"We're definitely all moved by this ... (it's) obviously a very tragic day," said Barrie police Sgt. Dave Goodbrand. OPP Const. George Silvestri said based on preliminary evidence, police do not suspect foul play. An autopsy is set for today in Toronto.

Brandon's father Steve Crisp told CBC News yesterday the clothes police had described on the body matched what Brandon was wearing when he disappeared on Oct. 13, after arguing with his parents over his seeming Xbox addiction.

Goodbrand said Brandon's parents were "obviously distraught" over the news.

At the Crisp home on Hickling Trail, two police officers stood guard, taking bouquets to the door.

"It makes you want to go home and hug your kids."
Pat Fergusson

"We're numb, absolutely numb," said Debbie Halikas, a co-worker of Brandon's mother, Angelika.

"It makes you want to go home and hug your kids," added colleague Pat Fergusson. "It's just so tragic."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Weight of world rests on Obama

POLICY Two wars, in Iraq and Afghanistan. A simmering nuclear crisis with Iran. A global financial meltdown spawned on Wall Street. Terrorists almost certainly looking for ways to attack the United States.

Not since Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Great Depression has a U.S. president faced such a daunting set of world problems topped by its battered world standing.

N. Korea

- Obama is expected to send envoys to North Korea, believed to be engaged in a covert nuclear program.

Can Obama make America as great as it was again?

Although the president-elect will have no trouble making the United States more popular than it has been under George W. Bush, he will have a harder task restoring American power and influence.

Obama's foreign policy vision includes globally popular choices such as a phased withdrawal of combat troops from Iraq and action on climate change.

Other changes are more controversial. He wants to increase U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan, and suggests he would permit direct diplomatic contacts with Iran and be open to meeting with Cuban leader Raul Castro.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 10, 12

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York University workers poised to strike
York University part-time workers said last night it seemed likely a strike would shut down all classes for 50,000 students today on the sprawling suburban campus. As of press time, talks continued between the union and the university. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Obama good for cities: Miller

U.S. president-elect Barack Obama will raise the profile of urban issues in Canada as well as the United States, Mayor David Miller, left, said yesterday, hailing the Democratic candidate's victory. "The role of cities and the role of the environment were cornerstones of his campaign," Miller said. "I think those are important things for Toronto, because his ideas will inevitably be discussed in Canada."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Tomorrow's Metro

Movies
Metro's Rick McGinnis catches up with James Bond star Daniel Craig for a killer interview.

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Watch an interview with Colin Powell on his reaction to Barack Obama's victory at metronews.ca/uselection
Read columnist Jonathan Mann for analysis of the new face of America at metronews.ca/uselection
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Lotteries

Lotto 6/49 4, 13, 17, 27, 35 & 45. Bonus 34; **Ontario 49** 12, 18, 21, 28, 37 & 41. Bonus 38; **Ontario Pick 3:** 1 5 7; **Ontario Pick 4:** 5 9 4 2; **Encore:** 9473979; **Daily Keno:** 1, 3, 6, 7, 13, 21, 22, 24, 26, 33, 34, 38, 40, 42, 45, 50, 53, 56, 57, 70. These results are not official.

News in brief

SEX ASSAULT A man with reddish-blonde hair who allegedly sexually assaulted a woman in a well-lit, high-traffic area on Halloween night is the target of a police search. Yesterday, detectives released a composite sketch of the suspect.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Trailer flip kills man

Part of truck plunges onto QEW, four injured

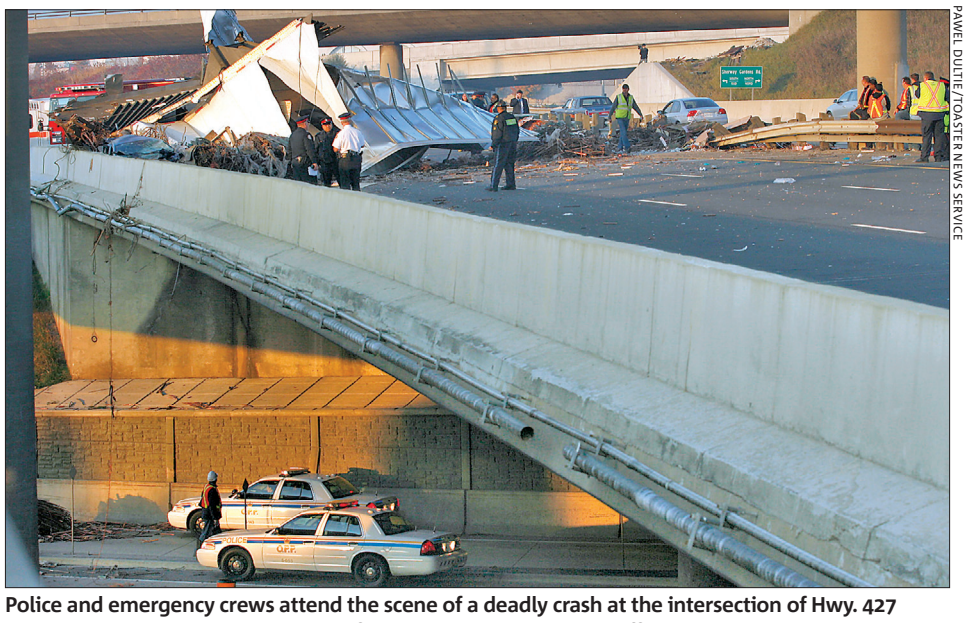
A 53-year-old Oakville man died and four people were injured yesterday morning after part of a transport truck plunged off a Hwy. 427 ramp and dropped tonnes of scrap copper on the highway below just as the morning rush began.

The victim and his 18-year-old daughter were travelling to Toronto when their car was buried under the metal and "literally cut in half," said Ontario Provincial Police Const. Dave Woodford.

The man, whose identity has not been released, was airlifted to St. Michael's Hospital, where he succumbed to his injuries.

Four others, including the victim's daughter and the driver of the transport truck, were taken to hospital with minor injuries, Woodford said.

The truck driver, a 28-year-old man from London, Ont., underwent surgery for a broken jaw.



PAWEL DULTIE/TOASTER NEWS SERVICE

Police and emergency crews attend the scene of a deadly crash at the intersection of Hwy. 427 South and the QEW yesterday. Part of a transport truck plunged off the highway ramp onto QEW, killing one and injuring four.

The truck was heading south towards the eastbound Gardiner Expressway when its trailer somehow detached, burst through the guardrail and plummeted about 20 metres onto the Queen Elizabeth Way around 6:20 a.m., Woodford said.

The crash shut down the highway and nearby arteries for most of the day. Traffic chaos ended in the early evening when the highways were re-opened.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Watch police investigate the accident scene at metronews.ca/canada

Bigger trucks raise concern

SAFETY Bigger trucks are coming to Toronto-area roads next spring, to test whether longer tractor-trailers can reduce shipping costs and cut greenhouse-gas emissions.

But a pilot project allowing what's known as long combination vehicles (LCVs) on provincial highways is raising safety concerns, the day after a man died and four people were hurt when a transport trailer plunged off a ramp onto the eastbound QEW.

"When you're going from Regina to Red Deer, two minutes outside of Regina you're on open highway," Ontario Safety League head Brian Patterson pointed out. By comparison, "the GTA is the most congested traffic area of North America.

"I get it — they're a train on wheels. I just don't think they're going to mix well with congestion in the GTA," he said.

The Ontario Trucking Association says the longer trucks are safe.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lobby war over packaging report

INTEREST GROUPS A battle is brewing between Toronto and the city's coffee shops. Not to mention the interest groups behind plastic water bottles, taxpayer rights and restaurants. With this week's release of Toronto's report on in-store packaging, the lobby war has shifted into a war of words. "They (the industry) don't want to change," said Coun. Glenn de Baeremaeker, chair of the city works committee, who is pushing to make companies responsible for the packaging they create. "They want the report to be rejected."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Students protest rising tuition

Close to 1,000 university students from across the GTA stopped downtown traffic yesterday afternoon to protest the escalating cost of university tuition in Ontario.

The students, waving placards and chanting slogans, marched peacefully to Queen's Park.

The Ontario office of the Canadian Federation of Students released a statement criticizing Premier Dalton McGuinty's decision to lift a tuition freeze in 2006. Outlining the 'Reaching Higher' framework introduced by the province after the freeze was lifted the CFS warns against the allowable tuition increases of up to 8 per cent per year or 36 per cent over four years.

"(Dalton McGinty) is allowing tuition fee increases to outpace inflation while average graduating student debt rapidly approaches $28,000."
Shelley Milanion

"At a time when McGinty is announcing an economic downturn in Ontario, he is allowing tuition fee increases to outpace inflation while average graduating student debt rapidly approaches $28,000," states Shelley Milanion, chairperson of the CFS-Ontario.

In more than a dozen other Ontario cities yesterday, from Ottawa to Thunder Bay, students joined the cause.

At Queen's Park Milanion told the crowd to "Take a look around you. This is what it means to be part of the student movement. We say no to more skyrocketing fees. Today it's time to drop fees."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rise comes after fall in gas prices

FUEL The price of gasoline is going up again. A day after pump prices dropped by more than six-cents a litre in many parts of the country, the cost of gas is on the rise — by about four cents a litre. Prices in the Toronto area were down to 85 cents. They were back up to 89 cents on yesterday morning. The national average price for gasoline across Canada Tuesday was about 98.2 cents a litre, according to price-tracking website Gasbuddy.com. However, analysts expect the below-$1 trend to last at least through the fall.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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4 local

Red-light runner found with loaded gun
A cyclist stopped by police after running a red light at Gerrard and Ontario streets was found to be carrying a loaded .22 revolver. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Judge acquits couple

Rules police violated rights in house search

A young Markham couple charged with faking passports, university degrees and government documents was acquitted yesterday after a judge ruled York Regional Police officers violated their rights when they entered their house without a warrant.

Justice Richard Blouin said the breach of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms by the officers was "so serious" he had no choice but to suppress all evidence against Yan Shen, 26, and his wife Ruiqiong Zhong, 27.

That evidence included hundreds of forged government documents, including Chinese passports, Ontario Driver's Licenses, marriage certificates and diplomas for prestigious universities in Canada.

He said officers had entered the house without "much in the way of grounds." It was only after entering the house, and arresting the couple, that police obtained a search warrant. Charges against three others living in the house at the time were withdrawn earlier.

All five accused were Chinese visa students on March 6, 2007.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In custody

- Shen, in jail since his arrest 18 months ago, remains in custody on immigration warrant on allegations he entered Canada with a forged Chinese passport.

Shooting leads to school lockdown

CHARGED A teen faces 10 charges after a 4:45 p.m. shooting in the parking lot of an east-end public school Tuesday. Police arrested the youth just after midnight near Warden Avenue Junior Public School where a man in his 20s was found earlier with gunshot wounds. The school had been put under lockdown during the incident. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Many Peel newcomers live in poverty, group says

Large suburban homes. Monster outlet malls. Sprawling subdivisions.

All the signs of prosperity can be deceiving in Peel, home to the 1.2 million people of Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon.

A snapshot of the recent immigrants arriving in the region, released yesterday, paints a gloomy picture of the municipality's 118,220 new arrivals between 2001 and 2006 — a demographics that represented 70 per cent of Peel's net population growth.

According to the Peel Newcomer Strategy Group, 33 per cent of the region's recent arrivals lived in poverty. This is almost 2.5 times higher than that of the general population.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Stelmach's $67,000 European tour

Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach's controversial 10-day mission to sell crude from Alberta's oilsands to European political and business leaders will cost taxpayers over $67,000. He has come under criticism for the trip since he will miss Monday's first ministers' meeting to discuss the impact of the world financial crisis. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada

Feds favour skills in renamed post

Diane Finley became the new minister last week of Human Resources and Skills Development — formerly known as Human Resources and Social Development. Conservatives say the quiet name change signals renewed focus on skills training and a faltering economy. Anti-poverty advocates say the subtle shift is a powerful sign of the latest Tory regression on social issues.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harkat asks for relaxed bail

Accused terrorist Mohamed Harkat says he needs to have his stringent bail conditions eased, and he's promising to behave himself if Ottawa will agree to relax the rules.

But a Federal Court judge expressed reservations yesterday, suggesting Harkat has a track record of untruthfulness that raises questions about his credibility.

The comments were a reference to a ruling by another Federal Court judge, Eleanor Dawson, who wrote in 2005 that Harkat had lied to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service about his background and personal contacts.

Harkat chalked up the problem yesterday to his imperfect command of English and the fact that he was frightened when he was first approached and interviewed by CSIS.

Harkat must wear a GPS ankle bracelet and is under house arrest most of the time.

His phone is tapped, his mail is intercepted, he's forbidden from using computers or cellphones, his contact with the media is restricted and any visitors must be pre-approved.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

- CSIS alleges that Harkat is a sleeper agent with ties to Osama bin Laden's terrorist network who should be removed from Canada.

Brockville **Warm weather for a boat ride**

DARCY CHEEK/BROCKVILLE RECORDER AND TIMES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A speedboater skims across the surface of the St. Lawrence River on a spectacular fall day for November yesterday as the temperature soared to a comfortable 19 C in Brockville, Ont.

Rape victims still under suspicion: Author

CRIME A new book is calling into question the justice system's treatment of women and children in sexual assault cases, arguing a century of law reform has done little to dispel suspicion surrounding their testimony.

The author of Carnal Crimes, University of Ottawa law professor Constance Backhouse, says women with sexual misconduct complaints are still accused of being delusional or promiscuous, and that police remain reluctant to lay charges without corroboration.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

December election for Quebec

POLITICS A Dec. 8 provincial election has been called in Quebec, where residents will live through the sixth campaign in five years.

All signs pointed to what Premier Jean Charest would be fighting the election on, literally, as the Liberals' campaign placards displayed a new slogan: The Economy First.

He attacked opposition leaders Pauline Marois and Mario Dumont for fighting measures that he says put Quebec in a good position to weather turbulent economic times, including a tax cut for the middle class.

He asked Quebecers to give his government a "clear mandate to get past this (financial) storm."

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Harsh words for B.C. attackers
B.C. Energy Minister Richard Neufeld used words like "crazy" and "stupid" yesterday to describe those responsible for three attacks in the past month on EnCana operations near Dawson Creek, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tories slam workplace plan

Companies to pay premiums to WSIB under proposed changes

The Ontario government is ramming through workplace safety legislation changes that amount to an extra $11,000 tax on small businesses, Progressive Conservative Leader John Tory says.

The proposed changes are "job killing" measures that force small construction firms to pay premiums to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board even though they already have their own private insurance, Tory told a news conference yesterday.

It is just a new way for the WSIB to collect more money and it is the "wrong thing to do at the wrong time" as the economy suffers, he said, adding that it is being done without proper consultation.

John Tory

The proposed changes to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Amendment Act would make workers' compensation coverage mandatory for construction workers. The labour ministry says this levels the playing field by extending coverage to about 90,000 independent operators.

Judith Andrew, a vice-president of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, said this "wrong-headed policy" has cropped up several times over the last decade.

Construction firms already have workers' compensation for employees, and this is only for company directors and officers, she said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Maple Leaf hires food safety officer

APPOINTMENT Maple Leaf Foods has appointed a chief food safety officer, a first for the company and potentially the industry, as the company tries to recover from a deadly Listeria outbreak.

"I think we're the first in Canada and ... possibly in North America to have that role inside a major food company," Maple Leaf president and CEO Michael McCain said yesterday.

"We experienced a very deep tragedy in what occurred a few months ago and took responsibility for that outcome," McCain said. "Part of that responsibility is (to) develop an action plan looking forward."

The chief food safety officer will be responsible for leading Maple Leaf's food safety and quality programs across the country, the company said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

NOVA SCOTIA The approval of a 9.3 per cent electricity rate hike in Nova Scotia is a "bitter pill" for small companies to swallow as the province's economy starts to stumble, says a spokesperson for small business. The average increase approved for Nova Scotia Power, due to begin on Jan. 1, "comes at a very bad time," Leanne Hachey, vice-president Atlantic of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, said yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ABC tops U.S. election ratings

Preliminary Nielsen Media Research estimates show that ABC News, with Charles Gibson leading a team that broadcast from New York's Times Square, won bragging rights with 13.1 million prime-time viewers tuning in to watch their U.S. election coverage. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

"Only in hindsight will history show whether Bush is deemed to be a good president"

Marji Ross, president and publisher of the conservative Regnery Book Publishing company.

Bush book

U.S. President George W. Bush, when it comes to his memoirs, is being advised by potential book publishing companies to let some time pass before doing so. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Slow first day post-election

Barack Obama began his first full day as president-elect with the simple pleasure of having breakfast with his daughters, the type of everyday family activity that he often had to sacrifice during the nearly two-year-long campaign.

Later in the morning, Obama left the house alone, clad in workout clothes, a ball cap and sunglasses, and spent an hour at a friend's apartment building where he uses the gym. Then it was back home to clean up before heading in to the office, a downtown office building where he was holding a conference call to thank campaign staff around the country.

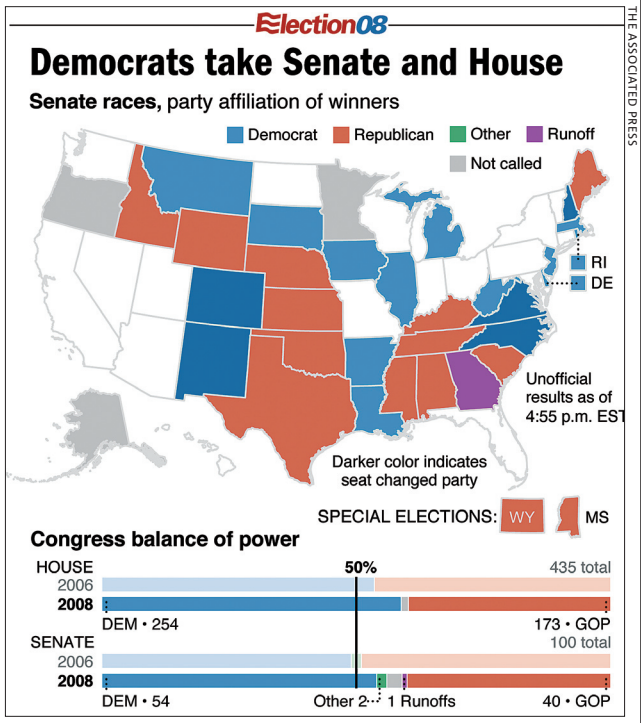
Obama's staff said he would address the media by the end of the week, but cabinet announcements were not planned that soon.

In addition to the many decisions he faces, he has personal decisions to make, such as when to move his family to Washington.

> **"You have earned the new puppy that's coming with us to the White House."**
> Barack Obama

And then there was the matter of choosing the family pet. "Sasha and Malia, I love you both so much, and you have earned the new puppy that's coming with us to the White House," Obama told his daughters in his victory speech.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A breakdown of the U.S. Senate and House numbers.

Voter turnout best in a century for America

VOTE America voted in record numbers, standing in lines that snaked around blocks and in some places in pouring rain.

Voters who queued up Tuesday and the millions who balloted early propelled 2008 to what one expert said was the highest turnout in a century.

It looks like 136.6 million Americans will have voted for president this election, based on 88 per cent of the country's precincts tallied and projections for absentee ballots, said Michael McDonald of George Mason University.

Using his methods, that would give 2008 a 64.1 per cent turnout rate.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

numbers

- The 2008 turnout is the highest rate since 1908.

News in brief

SAME SEX Voters put a stop to same-sex marriage in California, dealing a defeat to gay-rights activists in a state they hoped would be a vanguard since a court ruling made the unions legal this year.

BAN Florida narrowly approved adding language to the state constitution that bans same-sex marriage. The constitution will define marriage as only between a man and a woman.

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Spain truns down asylum request by bin Laden's son
Spain rejected asylum from a son of Osama bin Laden yesterday after deciding he did not meet necessary conditions. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rockets rattle shaky truce

Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers scrambled yesterday to contain fallout from the deadliest outbreak of violence since a truce brought an uneasy peace to the area five months ago.

Gaza militants pounded southern Israel with dozens of rockets to avenge raids that left six militants dead, but the guns quickly fell silent with neither side appearing to have much to gain from renewed hostilities.

"We have no intention of violating the quiet," Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak said on a tour of areas bordering Gaza. "But in any place where we need to thwart an action against Israeli soldiers and civilians, we will act."

Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum said the group fired deep into Israel to demonstrate the price of continued aggression. At the same time, he said, Hamas had contacted Egyptian mediators to find ways of keeping the truce intact. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israel and Hamas

• Before the Egyptian-mediated truce in June, near-daily rocket barrages played havoc with southern border towns and Israel has not found a military solution to stop them. Retaliatory Israeli air strikes killed scores of Palestinians in Gaza. Hamas, on the other hand, needs the calm to strengthen its hold on Gaza, where it seized control in June 2007 and restore its military capabilities.

U.S. helicopters too close: Iran

MIDDLE EAST Iran's military says U.S. helicopters have been flying too close to its border with Iraq and may even have crossed the frontier.

The statement, carried by the state news agency, says the helicopters were seen in Iraq and are "likely to violate Iranian air space".

"(U.S.) likely to violate Iranian air space"
Iranian military

The Iranian military said it would respond to any violation of its borders and warned the U.S. military to keep its distance.

The U.S. military has more than 150,000 troops in Iraq who make extensive use of helicopters. Iraq-based U.S. forces carried out a raid on neighbouring Syria on Oct. 26. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

DUMP TRUCK Police in Milwaukee say a teenage boy has survived after being accidentally dumped into the back of a recycling truck and compacted. Police say the 14-year-old ran away from a boot camp-style school for teens Monday and hid in a recycling bin filled with cardboard. The bin was picked up by a waste management truck. The boy wasn't discovered until the truck dumped its load at a recycling processing centre. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment & Views

Comment

White House of horrors

Will Obama overcome the monster list of challenges?

Home&Abroad

Andrew Cohen

Canada & world insight

Halloween has come and gone, but according to Newsweek, the venerable weekly magazine, there are horrors aplenty awaiting the unflappable Barack Obama on his first day in the White House.

"Nightmare on Pennsylvania Avenue," screams its headline over a dark, forbidding cover. "Scary challenges facing the new president …."

Inside, the sadistic editors offer a mirthless primer on the huge challenges facing the country's new president. The list is sobering. Frightening, really.

Although his campaign rhetoric was never pessimistic … Mr. Obama knew the dangers. Indeed, he signaled the magnitude of the challenge in his lyrical victory speech Tuesday night.

It is hard to know when a president has inherited a malaise worse than what Obama will face on January 20, 2009. On that day, he will stand on the steps of the United States Capitol, take the oath of office, and claim the prize that he has pursued with such single-mindedness for the last 21 feverish months.

While he is the most level-headed of people, a model of equanimity, Mr. Obama may permit himself a moment of pause, doubt, or even buyer's regret. He might also ask a few honest questions.

Is this presidency not a diminished prize? A poisoned chalice? Do I really want this? Am I not being set up to fail, a placeholder for a triumphant Republican in 2012?

Perhaps, but unlikely. And although his campaign rhetoric was never pessimistic — dour folks are not elected in America and dour presidents (like Jimmy Carter) are not re-elected — Mr. Obama knew the dangers. Indeed, he signaled the magnitude of the challenge in his lyrical victory speech Tuesday night.

At home, the economy is in its worst crisis since the Great Depression. The markets are still falling. Americans are still losing their jobs and their homes.

Most telling, they have lost confidence in their financial system. The deficit could reach $1 trillion US next year, and the national debt $10 trillion.

Abroad, America is fighting in Iraq, where things are improving, and in Afghanistan, where they are not. Oil isn't $150 US a barrel anymore, but nor is it the $23 a barrel it was when George W. Bush took office in 2001.

The war on terrorism continues. The world gets warmer. Peace in the Middle East remains elusive. Iran and North Korea rattle their nuclear sabres. Russia is dangerously expansionist.

And yet, in adversity, opportunity. The best presidents — such as Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Roosevelt — arrived in times of crisis and succeeded brilliantly.

For President Obama, that should be of some comfort in January.

Andrew Cohen, a professor and journalist, is the author of Extraordinary Canadians: Lester B. Pearson.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Obama's election brings thrill of hope

By KENYA HUNT

What does having a black president mean to me? After a year of combing through Barack Obama and John McCain's plans for change and finally casting my vote, I reached a point this week when I had to confront the reality of race.

My earliest memory of race took place when I was five years old in my mostly white kindergarten class in Virginia.

It was lunchtime and I offered up my Fruit Roll-up in exchange for my best friend's cookie as part of our daily snack swap ritual. "My mom told me I'm not allowed to swap snacks with you because you're black," she told me.

"But I'm not black, I'm brown," I replied.

Later that day, my parents, who grew up during the days of segregation, explained to me the meaning of discrimination and how to rise above it.

Kenya Hunt

The second memory took place a year later, when a kid in my neighborhood called me the "N" word. I responded by knocking him down with a punch (not exactly what my parents meant by rising above racism, mind you). It was the first and only physical fight I've ever engaged in.

During my days in high school when one overachieving friend or another boasted aspirations of being the first black president, he or she would inevitably be greeted with a 'Negro please, that would never happen' from classmates.

These experiences helped shape me and my perception of my home state and country.

So when the realization set in last night that not only will America have its first black president, but that my home state, the former capital of the pro-slavery Confederacy and a place that outlawed interracial marriage as recently as 1967, would play a pivotal role in the election, my racialized cynicism softened and I began to believe that it was possible for Americans to evolve beyond our divided past.

This happens in the same year that Lewis Hamilton became the first black Formula One champion, Tiger Woods won his 14th US Open championship and the fashion world opened up its overwhelmingly white runways to black models. The climate of change is palpable across the world.

"I do believe we're that much closer to a day when we can accept and embrace one another's racial differences for what they are. "

I'm not naive enough to believe that Obama will perform miracles or that his win will mean that we'll all hold hands and live as a harmonious unit. But I do believe we're that much closer to a day when we can accept and embrace one another's racial differences for what they are. And that hope is thrilling.

London-based Kenya Hunt is the Global Style editor for Metro World News.

Letters

Samantha Clark, TORONTO

I feel that the proposed law being imposed by the provincial government on the use of distracting handheld portable devices, such as cellphones, and GPSs is a good idea.

When driving in Ontario, especially in the cities, there are drivers talking on cellphones, and text messaging everywhere.

These little handheld devices are major distractions. People get hurt just walking and talking, or text messaging on them, so why would anyone use them while driving?

They are a danger not only to the driver and passengers, but to the general public. I am glad the provincial government has finally done something about the dangers of cellphone use in cars.

Ahmed Abouel-Kheir, TORONTO

Re: 'Now is the time to slow down immigration,' Oct. 28.

I think Mr. James Bissett misses the big picture. Canada needs to keep immigration levels as they are. Yes, our economy is slowing down, but we're in dire need of doctors, nurses, and other workers across the country. Instead of admitting everyone, our government should be selective, in order to meet market demand.

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Brewer expects beer wars to continue
Molson Coors Brewing Co. expects beer price wars to continue in its key Canadian markets in the coming months, as rivals attempt to recover from the effects of a soggy summer. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Toronto home resales fall 35%

HOUSING The number of resale home deals fell 35 per cent in the Greater Toronto Area last month compared with a year earlier, according to a tally by the Toronto Real Estate Board.

And the average price was down 10.6 per cent, to $352,974 from $394,646.

The realtors' group tracked a 13 per cent price decline in the central city to $376,896 and an eight per cent pullback in the suburban 905 area to $336,049. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

In brief

CLIMATE Canada's biggest companies are making climate change a higher priority, partly through more widespread disclosure of greenhouse-gas emissions, according to a new report from the Carbon Disclosure Project.

ROGERS An Ontario judge has certified a $100 million class action lawsuit against Rogers Cable that alleges Rogers breached its contract when it failed to consistently provide digital On Demand service between May 1 and Sept. 30, 2006. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Down side of victory

Obama's win could lead to auto job losses

Barack Obama's victory in the U.S. presidential election is good news for the Canadian economy to the extent that it boosts consumer confidence, but his protectionist attitude could hurt Canada's struggling manufacturing industry, economists say.

Obama has indicated he wants to implement a fiscal stimulus package, that could include a bailout for the U.S. auto industry.

However, a bailout package could encourage the merger of GM and Chrysler. Cerberus, which owns 80.1 per cent of Chrysler, is in talks with General Motors, and GM is said to be seeking federal aid to make the deal happen.

A merger would likely mean significant layoffs and plant shutdowns, including some in Canada, where GM and Chrysler employ 30,000 people and operate assembly and parts plants in southern Ontario. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Dirty oil

- The Obama presidency could affect Canada's oil industry, as he has said he will fight America's "addiction" to dirty oil, which could include Alberta's oilsands.

G20 finance ministers to meet

ECONOMY Canada will argue for international review of strengthened domestic regulation of financial institutions when the Group of 20 finance ministers meet in Brazil.

But in a briefing in advance of the G20 meetings that begin Saturday, a senior Canadian official suggested any new regulations should not impede open-market competition that could stymie future economic growth. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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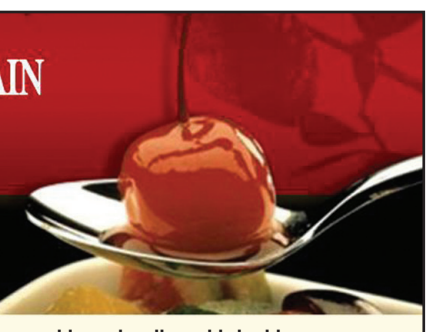

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Maddux wins 18th Gold Glove
Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Greg Maddux added to his record with his 18th Gold Glove yesterday. Rawlings has presented Gold Gloves for fielding excellence annually since 1957. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Romo practises

Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo was back on the practice field yesterday, taking snaps and throwing with a splint on his hand. He remains optimistic about returning for Dallas' next game, a week from Sunday at Washington.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Prince hands Raps first loss

NBA RESULT

Pistons 100 **Raptors** 93

THE SKINNY: Tayshaun Prince scored 27 points on 10-of-13 shooting to lead the Allen Iverson-less Pistons to a 100-93 victory.

A.I. M.I.A.: Iverson was with the team in Toronto but didn't play because the Denver Nuggets hadn't finalized the physical on one of the men he was traded for, Chauncey Billups.

DEEETROIT BASKETBALL: Despite some Raptor runs, the Pistons hit dagger after dagger while getting big stops with punishing efficiency.

THE TRASH TALK: Rasheed Wallace riled up Jermaine O'Neal all night. In the third quarter, O'Neal tossed his headband to the floor after the referees failed to call a foul on Wallace. When O'Neal forced Wallace into a missed jumper, the two veterans yapped at each other all the way back to the other end.

THE GOOD NEWS: Chris Bosh racked up another double-double, scoring 26 points and grabbing 13 boards. Jose Calderon dropped 24 with eight assists but was outplayed at times by the Pistons' Rodney Stuckey.

THE QUOTE: **"Tayshaun kicked our butts"** – Raptors coach Sam Mitchell

THE NEXT GAME: In Atlanta Friday night.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CHRIS YOUNG

The Pistons' Kwame Brown goes up for a dunk against the Raptors' Jamario Moon last night.

Athletes react to Obama win

Donovan McNabb grew up in Chicago never believing he would see a black man become president. Perhaps that was one reason why the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback didn't register to vote until this election.

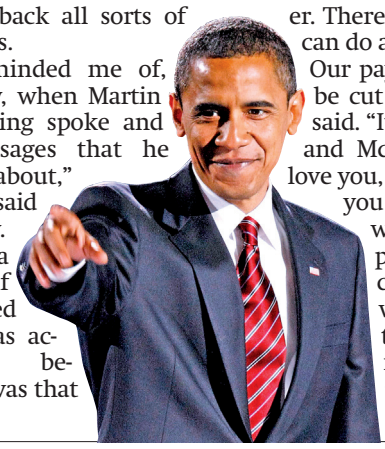
McNabb, though, had met Barack Obama, believed in his ideas and supported his policies. Watching Obama deliver his victory speech at Grant Park brought back all sorts of memories.

"It reminded me of, obviously, when Martin Luther King spoke and the messages that he spoke about," McNabb said yesterday. "As a man, if you teared up, it was acceptable because it was that deep."

"Inspiring and transformational," NBA commissioner David Stern said. "Hooray for the USA."

Oregon State men's basketball coach Craig Robinson had a special rooting interest: His sister, Michelle, is Obama's wife.

Not all athletes celebrated. Minnesota Vikings defensive end Jared Allen thought about the tax implications. "It's a sad day for me. I'm a McCain supporter. There is nothing I can do about it now. Our paychecks will be cut in half," he said. "It is what it is and McCain, I still love you, and Obama, you better do what you promised because the whole country is watching."



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Joseph gets final weekly offensive award

Argonauts quarterback Kerry Joseph was named CFL offensive player of the week yesterday after completing 25 of 38 passes for 307 yards in Toronto's 45-38 season-ending loss to the Saskatchewan Roughriders. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Tonight

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7 p.m.
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THE SKINNY: After two hard-fought losses to Carolina, the Leafs return to Boston, where they won 4-2 two weeks ago tonight. The Bruins have won four of their last five.

There's such a thing as too much D

TheHockeyNews

Ryan Kennedy

thehockeynews.com

It's funny to think of Maple Leafs GM Cliff Fletcher as having a pressing issue on his plate during what is, by all accounts, a rebuilding season where all eyes are on the future.

But here we are after a dozen games and there are problems with the roster. That is to say, there's too many defencemen for not enough spots and if the Leafs don't rectify the problem soon, they will have missed a golden opportunity to aid the rebuilding process.

The fact of the matter is, the Leafs need to find new homes for both Ian White and Carlo Colaiacovo and they need to do it sooner than later.

The reason for the urgency is simple; with Colaiacovo, there is the persistent worry that he will get injured again, thus nullifying any trade value he has. In White's case, his value will continue to drop as more rival GMs realize a team with one of the most statistically poor defenses in the league (23rd overall in goals allowed per game) is playing the blueliner at forward — not exactly a vote of confidence.

And of course, there's the obvious observation that with a defense corps of Tomas Kaberle, Pavel Kubina, Luke Schenn, Jeff Finger, Mike Van Ryn, Jonas Frogren and Anton Stralman, the Leafs are deep enough, even if they run into injuries. On top of that, "showcasing" White at forward is taking away a roster spot that could go to the recently demoted Jiri Tlusty or one of his Marlies brethren.

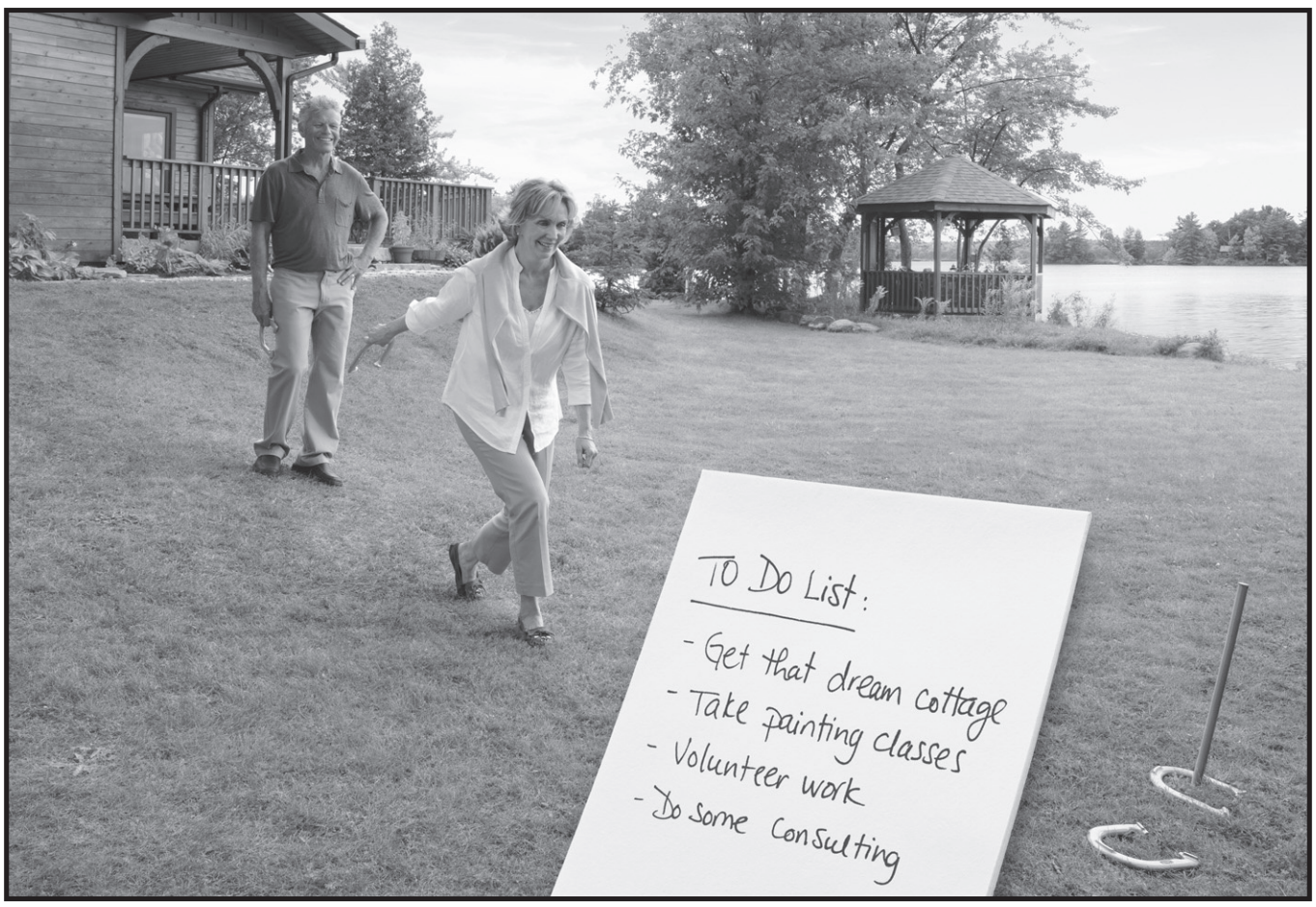
The return for Colaiacovo and/or White needs to come in the form of draft picks. The Buds aren't going to land prospects for either of the blueliners and a rebuilding team traditionally does so via the draft (I say "traditionally" because the Leafs have never bought into that argument in the past).

With every passing season, the trade deadline becomes more of a minefield for the league's GMs and the pressure from fans and the media increases accordingly. If Fletcher could capitalize early on a team bereft of healthy defensemen, then maybe that fourth round pick becomes a third-rounder. Similarly, if the GM waits too long, when tastier assets are available from around the NHL, then that fourth-rounder turns into a fifth or sixth round selection.

Both Colaiacovo and White have useful qualities. Colaiacovo is a puck-mover who has an almost preternatural ability to keep the puck in the offensive zone when it comes dangerously close to leaving, while White's ability to play both forward and defence is a very trendy skill right now.

This year's draft is deep and though coach Ron Wilson has instilled a great work ethic that does not include tanking for a shot at John Tavares or Victor Hedman, there are prizes a-plenty should the Buds enter the draft lottery and not have one of the top picks. A highly-skilled forward is what Toronto most needs and as it would happen, Ontario boy Nazem Kadri will be on the board, as will a polished centre out west by the name of Brayden Schenn. He's got an older brother you might have heard of, Luke something…

The Hockey News thn.com



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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Last year Matthew Soegtrop, centre, wanted to bring a flag football team to Fern Avenue public school. Yesterday, he led them to the Division II city championship.

Youngster's idea results in city flag football title

There's no movie planned on the story of the Fern Falcons, but maybe there should be.

How about Remember the Falcons? After all, Hollywood has wasted a lot of celluloid over the years telling stories less compelling than this one.

A year ago, Fern Avenue Public School didn't have a touch football team. The west-end school hadn't won a Toronto District School Board championship of any sort since the 1980s.

But thanks to the efforts of a 13-year-old boy who desperately wanted a team and a female teacher who agreed to coach a sport she knew little about because she couldn't say no, the Falcons are now champions. Undefeated, too.

The dream season ended yesterday at North York's Esther Shiner Stadium along with placard-waving, face-paint wearing fans, players doing the Fern version of the Lambeau Leap and a bottled-water shower for the coach instead of a Gatorade bucket.

The Falcons won in thrilling fashion, building a 22-0 lead and then snuffing a comeback with a last-play, end-zone interception to beat the Lawrence Heights Eagles 22-14 and claim the city Division II Grade 8 championship.

The dream season began in September when football-mad Matthew Soegtrop complained to his mother that Fern didn't have a team. Then make it happen, she said.

So he did. He and a couple of friends approached the principal, who backed them but told them there was a problem — they needed a coach.

The first teacher they approached had other commitments, so they went to Jill Kearns. But Kearns wasn't traditional coaching material.

"I like football, but I didn't know anything about plays," says Kearns. "But I thought if they were that committed, I could be too.

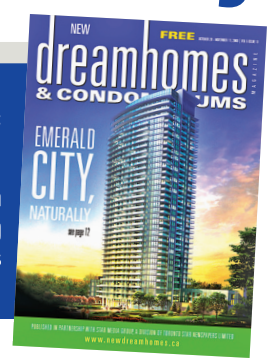
Matthew, who is the team's quarterback and threw three touchdown passes yesterday, dreamed up some plays.

"Matthew's a little football maniac," Kearns says. "He thinks football all the time." Matthew's mother's cousin happens to be Toronto Argonauts slotback Andre Talbot, who dropped by to offer expertise along with caps and sweatbands. Through Talbot, the Argos invited the Falcons to their last home game. And one of the school's parents, who works with NFL Canada, arranged for the Buffalo Bills to stop by later this month for a football clinic.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Metro Homes

A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH: dreamhomes & CONDOMINIUMS



Forest Hill best bet for Bond

Spy digs aren't cheap

Becoming **Bond**

Rick McGinnis
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

We only glimpse James Bond's home twice in more than 20 movies. As briefly revealed in Dr. No and Live And Let Die, they're predictably masculine places, full of wood and antiques and nautical prints on the walls. They're tidy — one suspects an MI6-vetted maid service is employed — and almost anonymous, except for one comic episode.

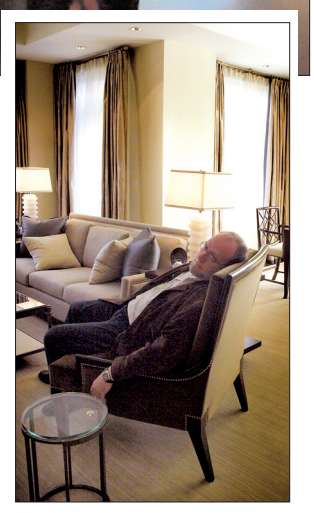
In Live And Let Die, the 1973 film that introduced Roger Moore's lighthearted Bond, the secret agent's boss unexpectedly arrives at his door early one morning, and after hiding the pretty Italian colleague Bond has spent the night with, he takes M into his kitchen. It's a groovy '70s addition to Bond's pad, all dark wood and tile, where pride of place is given to an elaborate coffee maker and grinder. (Like his creator Ian Fleming, Bond famously hates tea.) There's a showy ritual of preparing a cup, after which M raises an eyebrow and blusters "Is that all it does?"

Clearly, the seeds of the metrosexual Bond were planted years before Pierce Brosnan took over the role.

My hunt for a suitably Bondlike pad takes me through a series of showrooms and presentation suites that have sprung up in the wake of Toronto's condo boom. I'm looking for a combination of luxury and discretion — it's hard to imagine Bond settling for some rented flat, and a tidy little townhouse in some neighbourhood thick with strollers and minivans is completely out of the question. I end up in Forest Hill, a venerable and wealthy enclave, where two pricey prospects seem to fit the bill.

Both the Avenue and the Wentworth offer the sorts of amenities Bond would demand — valet parking and 24-hour concierge, pools and steam rooms to help mend his wounds and private elevator access. They're both a stone's throw from the South Korean consulate, but hold the downtown at polite arm's length.

"It's Forest Hill," says Phil LaBoeuf, a salesman for the Wentworth. "Rock stars, politicians, professional athletes — these sort of people choose to live here."



Above: Metro writer Rick McGinnis in the dining room of the Four Seasons Residences presentation suite. Right: Rick at the presentation centre of the Wentworth condos in Forest Hill, researching a feature on where James Bond would live.

The interiors for both buildings are by ubiquitous Brian Gluckstein, but the Wentworth comes closest to the Bond standard. Since any place Bond would live is nothing more than a *pied-à-terre*, he could get by with the one bedroom with the den for just $1.2 million, which includes two parking spaces — one for the Aston Martin and one for the Bentley. Add condo fees of between $1000 to $2000 a month, and property taxes starting at $12,000 a year, and you'd better hope Bond can expense everything from the dinner jackets to the Dom Perignon.

Ultimately, though, the character of Bond lives more fully in hotels than any mere mailing address, so I head downtown to the presentation suite for the Four Seasons Residences, across from the massive hole in the ground where the condo/hotel complex will rise. It's another Gluckstein design — his name has a Blofeld-like persistency in the condo world — but it's far more expansive and epic, with big graphic touches and the slick finishes that bring to mind Ken Adams' sets for films like Dr. No, Goldfinger and The Spy Who Loved Me.

Adams' theatrical modernity sets the tone for most of the condo presentation centres I visit, which feature glossy white-on-white rooms, and buildings set on improbable cantilevers next to starkly planted stands of trees on perfectly manicured little hillocks. "Ken Adams has a lot to answer for, doesn't he?" notes Michael G. Wilson, stepson of Cubby Broccoli, and producer with his sister Barbara of the current Bond franchises.

As much as James Bond might have persisted through the decades as a hero, it's the Bond villain aesthetic, with its stark, expensive-looking surfaces and conspicuously-placed hunks of art, that seems to have triumphed in the world of interior design.

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Home theatres are suddenly within reach

Dramatic price drops mean regular folk can buy impressive systems

Let's say you're not quite satisfied with the 37-inch flat-screen TV you bought a few years back. You're looking for something a little bit more impressive, a system to give you that gasp-inducing, jaw-dropping, toe-curling movie theatre experience. Maybe it's time for your own home theatre.

Above and above right, Sony's home theatre system and KDL-52XBR7 52" television; right, Panasonic's DMP-BD10 Blu-ray Disc player; and far right, Philips' Prestigo Universal Remote Control.

What kind of equipment to buy depends on your budget, how much time you have on your hands, your technical prowess and — of course — how much you tend to drool over the latest high-tech gizmos.

Those inclined toward do-it-yourself projects can buy a high-definition set or projector, hook it up to a DVD player a surround sound system for $3,000 US or less.

But if money is no object, you can get your home cinema professionally designed, acoustically engineered, installed and tricked out to look like a real movie theatre...for $25,000 and up. Like luxury cars or motorboats, there's practically no upper limit for those with money to spend.

Sal Alfano, a retired Wall Street executive, had a $9,000 home theatre system built in his home last fall as part of a basement renovation project.

It features theatre-style seats, a 103-inch screen (measured diagonally) with a high definition projector, a popcorn machine and soundproofing to preserve neighbourly harmony.

Having the system professionally installed made sense for Alfano. "I'm not a technician. Let them do it," he said. Since then, he has enjoyed having his three grandchildren over to the basement to watch DVDs, and friends to watch sports games. "Even my doctor came over one night," he said.

Like Alfano, most people don't have the time or inclination to wire their own components and configure them for the optimal sound and picture, said Scott Oglum, founder of Newark, Del.-based TheaterXtreme, a chain of retail stores that specializes in outfitting home theatre rooms at prices starting around $7,000.

A dramatic drop in prices for digital projectors in recent years has made it possible for ordinary North Americans to afford an impressive home theatre system. Until a few years ago, Oglum said, "it was strictly something that you saw in the Hollywood homes."

For those who are more technically inclined, designing and installing a system yourself is well within reach. THE ASSOCIATED PRES

Do-it-yourself clubs help homeowners tackle repair projects

Lewis and Rebecca Taylor were confident when they recently bought a fixer-upper, even though they're not particularly handy. They knew they'd have plenty of help updating the kitchen, tearing out carpeting and redecor–ating the house, which was built in 1965.

The couple belongs to a do-it-yourself club whose members agree to spend one day a month helping each other with home improvement tasks.

"I don't think I would have bought this house if I weren't involved in this group," said Lewis Taylor of Eugene, Ore.

"I'm somebody who doesn't particularly enjoy improving my house. But when you make it a party with friends, it's really cool. You do things you never would have done by yourself." Lewis Taylor

Do-it-yourself clubs are forming as homeowners try to make improvements on a budget.

The clubs provide additional labour and know-how when homeowners tackle big projects.

"Using the talents of your friends and neighbours to assist with each others' home DIY projects is becoming popular. Consider it an expertise barter," says Abby Buford, spokeswoman for the home-improvement store Lowe's.

"For instance, someone may have experience with minor plumbing repair and another may love to paint," Buford said in an e-mail. "It can also be a social venue, giving friends time to be together while assisting with each others' homes."

The clubs — generally created by friends or neighbours — vary in how they are organized. Some have strict rules requiring attendance at every get-together.

Others operate less formally and may only involve participants sending an e-mail requesting help with an upcoming job.

The Taylors' group, dubbed the Monthly Improvement Collective of Eugene, consists of five couples who meet 10 times a year, twice at each home. The host couple plans projects, makes sure tools and supplies are at hand, and serves breakfast and lunch.

The group has built retaining walls, replaced flooring and installed a fence.

Working with friends makes home repair more enjoyable and less overwhelming, Lewis Taylor said. It also saves money on tools, since you can borrow instead of buy.

"I'm somebody who doesn't particularly enjoy improving my house," said Taylor, 35. "But when you make it a party with friends, it's really cool. You do things you never would have done by yourself."

Amy Brendmoen of St. Paul, Minn., agreed. When it was her turn to put her club to work, she and her husband, Jeff Neske, asked them to tear out their backyard, till a vegetable garden and build a trellis.

"It was a daunting project," she said. "There's no way we could have gotten it done" without help.

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Homes at Homestead Park by Ballymore Homes range in size from 1,717 to 1,953 square feet and are modestly priced from $269,000 to the mid-$300,000s. Basic designs start with three bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms (two bathrooms and powder room) with the ability to be converted into four- or five-bedroom layouts.

Construction well underway at Homestead Park

If you are looking for a new home in a community that gives you plenty of room to play and grow, then make your way down to Scarborough and check out the hottest community in Rouge Valley — Homestead Park by Ballymore Homes.

Construction on this exciting new community of freehold townhomes, beautifully arranged on a cul-de-sac at the corner of Homestead Road and Lawrence Avenue, is well underway and the homes are selling fast, so don't miss out on an opportunity to own a stunning new home in a great location!

Homes range in size from 1,717 to 1,953 square feet and are modestly priced from $269,000 to the mid-$300,000s. Basic designs start with three bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms (two bathrooms and powder room) with the ability to be converted into four- or five-bedroom layouts. Purchasers also have the option to upgrade to three full bathrooms in order to complement the additional bedrooms.

The exterior of the homes sport flashy clay-brick designs, accented with varying combinations of cladding, vinyl shakes, stone sills and verandas. Talk about style!

Area amenities are all just footsteps away, with an ample selection of schools all in close proximity. A trail behind the community leads to a bunch of public schools that range from junior kindergarten to grade eight. A bit east on Lawrence, you would be minutes away from a French immersion school that offers classes from junior kindergarten to grade six. Just across the street from the sales office, you will find a day care, while the University of Toronto and Centennial College are both just north of the community.

Homestead Park is surrounded by golf courses, parks, shopping malls, big-box stores, grocery stores, a movie theatre, Centenary Hospital and more!

Looking to beef up your home with some new furniture? No problem! The Morningside Mall is currently being redeveloped to further expand your shopping muscle. If that's not enough, Highway 401 is just five minutes away, while downtown Toronto is a quick drive via Kingston Road — a great alternative to the Don Valley Parkway! Those who choose to take public transit will be pleased to learn that a TTC bus stop is right across the street.

Best of all, the roads surrounding this row of houses have met the requirements for the City to come in and remove any garbage or snow, which means there is no need to worry about paying for any landscaping or maintenance fees! Homeowners will benefit from no shared elements or condominium board, with everyone responsible for their own pieces of land. That's something you won't find in most townhome communities in the GTA!

There is still time to own a home in this one-of-a-kind community, so drop by the sales office on the corner of Homestead and Lawrence. Hours of operation are Monday to Wednesday from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday by appointment only, Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Call 416-287-8676 or visit ballymorehomes.com for more details.

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How do you know if a trend's got staying power?

HomeScape

Home decor trends come and go, but how can you tell what's a stinker and what works? Well, there's no quick answer. But one thing is clear: the worst approach you can take is to run madly after the latest just because it is the latest.

For a start, what pleases your eye in home decor may not necessarily please other parts of your body, believe me. This is especially true in the area of furniture and functional accessories.

For example, a snazzy backless bar stool may look great in a magazine, but it will not encourage guests to linger around your kitchen, especially if their backs are no longer young and springy.

Or say you've shelled out for a cool new table lamp with a very unusual and exciting look. But once you go to use it, oh my — finding the switch requires the dexterity of a mechanic changing the oil filter in the deep dark recesses of a Japanese car.

The bottom line is that you must try out the product. Turn switches off and on, sit on the chair, lie on the chaise. Even if you take off your shoes — you may have to endure the disapproving looks of the clerk, but you won't be sorry in the end.

There's nothing in this world that is more annoying than buying a gorgeous new chair, and discovering after bringing it home that the seating area is too snug for your behind.

As you try out furniture and other useful items for your home, you may reconsider and decide that you don't need the item. Which brings us to the thorny issue of what you "need" to have in your home anyway.

Let's be frank. Some trends aren't functional, some are just plain ridiculous, and some won't work in the type of home you have. For example, an arching floor lamp in stainless steel may not work well in a traditionally decorated home.

"The bottom line is that you must try out the product. Turn switches off and on, sit on the chair, lie on the chaise."

Some people (like my dad) will repeat endlessly, "Why should I redecorate my house? It's just a way to create a market for new products when there's no need."

Well, yes. Some trends do encourage unnecessary consumption. And redecorating to keep up with the Joneses is not, in my view, a legitimate reason to consume. Sorry.

The problem arises in the definition of "need." Some people (like dear old dad) don't consider a threadbare sofa to be a decor problem. I may be my father's daughter in some ways, but I draw the line at the sofa. I've always believed that a change in decor when things start looking tired or tatty can breathe new life into your surroundings. While too much change serves no purpose, no change at all will turn you and your home into a relic — and you don't want that.

And change doesn't have to be expensive, if you concentrate on accessories such as throw pillows, vases, or picture frames. Even a large clear bowl of bright fruit can serve as a pop of the season's hottest colour.

New furniture in a hot colour, on the other hand, should be a more carefully considered decision. The colour could appear dated in a year and may start to grate on your nerves much earlier. So adopt a trend in small ways, and decide in time how much of it you really want to incorporate into your home decor.

Does the trend work for you? Do you need it? Are parts of it interesting? Can you adapt it to get what you want? Or will you resoundingly reject it? You decide. Your home is, after all, a reflection of your refined and educated tastes. That's not something that evolves overnight.

Sylvia Putz is a journalist with an interest in home decor and design. She has written extensively for the TV show Arresting Design.

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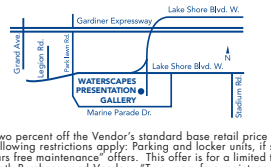

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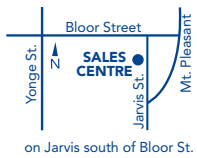

on Jarvis south of Bloor St.

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Monarch

New Dreamhomes & Condominiums Magazine
To learn more about new homes and real estate, pick up your FREE copy of New Dreamhomes & Condominiums Magazine at your nearest DreamBox.

Replacing an old shower head is easy

Tired of that leaky, single stream shower head? If so, there's no need to call Joe the Plumber. Just pick up a wrench and change the shower head yourself, because replacing it is one of the easiest things for a homeowner to do.

It's as elementary as just twisting off the aging shower head and screwing the new one to the existing shower arm.

On both ends of the price spectrum, from $20 to more than $150, consumers can find a wide variety of shower heads, from water massagers to hand-held versions. With a wrench and some thread tape, most shower heads on the market can be changed in a few simple steps.

"The most common thing among consumers is that people don't know that this is easy," said Mark Knurek, senior product manager for Moen Inc. "They think there is something they have to do behind the wall, that they have to install a new arm in."

Shower heads can experience lime buildup that affects water flow, and older shower heads may not be up to current low-flow guidelines, said Amy Matthews, host of two shows on the DIY Network.

Matthews says you should turn off the water supply to the house, or just to the shower, before working on the shower head.

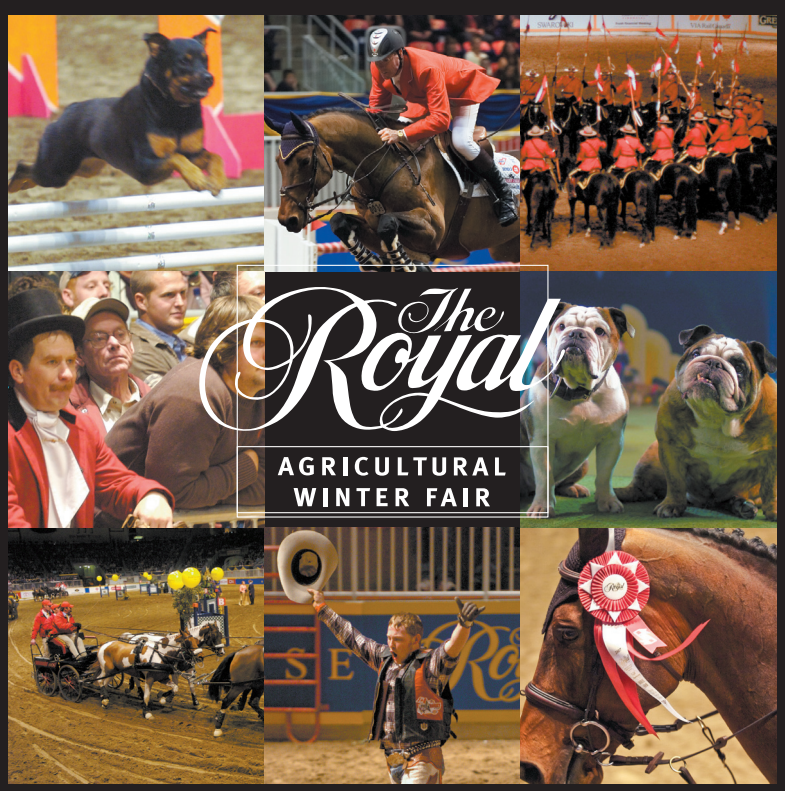
"You also would want to turn on the shower handles and let whatever is sitting in the pipes drain out so you don't have any extra leakage while you're working," Matthews said. Another good piece of advice: Be careful when working with copper pipe, which is relatively soft and flexible. It could get damaged if you use too much muscle.

"You have to work slowly and gingerly with your wrenches," Matthews said. Make sure you follow the product instructions. Keep your shower head spic-and-span with a cleaner to avoid lime accumulation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Changing a leaky shower head is easier than you think.

STICK IT TO NOVEMBER



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Pre-approvals should always come in writing

Q I went to my bank quite a while back and based upon my salary, received pre-approval from my financial adviser for a $300,000 mortgage. I put an offer in on a small condo last week and did not insert a financing condition because of my pre-approval. When I called up my adviser I learned that not only was he no longer with the bank, there was nothing in their mortgage system that said I had pre-approval. Based upon my salary, they now will only give me a portion of what I needed to purchase the condo. What can I do?

LegalMatters

A This is a common problem that I hear of from clients. The first and most important rule is that if you get pre-approval for a mortgage, get it in writing (this, I assume, you didn't do). Staff and advisers change at banks at a very high rate and oral assurances cannot be relied upon when it comes to home financing. I would take your problem to the manager of the branch but their hands may also be tied as it is the usually the underwriting department of the bank that makes these decisions.

If this produces no result, I would immediately contact a mortgage broker (I can refer you to a few very reliable ones) who will shop for mortgages for you, generally at no cost, as they make their fees from the lending institution. The issue here is that they may have to go to secondary lending sources such as trust companies and non-type-A chartered lending institutions.

As you may be considered a greater risk, there will be a commensurate higher interest rate on your mortgage and higher monthly payments.

A last effort is to attempt to find a private mortgage that again will have a higher interest rate and payments. You may also want to consider a vendor take back mortgage where, if the vendor is in a position to do so, they can help you finance the transaction. You might also take the first smaller mortgage the bank can give you and search for a more expensive second mortgage. If you can avoid these avenues, try to do so because they come with some of the highest interest rates.

Some people might just say, well then, I'll just walk away from the deal. The problem with that is that the standard contract to purchase real estate is one of the most ironclad out there, and frustrated vendors can sue the purchaser who backs out of a transaction for specific performance. There is also the concern that vendor will have likely purchased another residence based upon the assurance of your purchase, thereby causing a very expensive ripple effect.

Lesson: Always get pre-approval of mortgages in writing.

Jeffrey D. Cowan is the principal of Cowan & Taylor, Barristers & Solicitors, jeff@cowanandtaylor.com. The information contained in this article should not be relied upon as legal advice.

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A-level investments in a buyer's market

A few weeks back my column focused on this buyer's market we find ourselves in, and the opportunities it may present, as well as the pitfalls to avoid. I'd like to expand on our current marketplace with respect to an ever popular practice — condominium investments.

When I use the phrase buyer's market I do so to imply that the current market is a positive one for buyers. This is different than a market so deteriorated that buyers are doomed no matter how low they buy, at least in the short run. It is my humble opinion that our market, while in a state of correction and uncertainty, presents opportunities for those buyers in a position to take advantage of them.

One reason for this is the fact that Toronto's real estate market had not peaked prior to the stock market crashes. When compared to like markets across North America such as New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, Vancouver, Edmonton and Calgary, Toronto's real estate prices remained relatively affordable. To put it into perspective, a downtown Vancouver condo valued at $450,000 would have been worth closer to $300,000 in Toronto. Assume that same condo today, in Toronto, sells for around $280,000. If someone had offered to reduce the price of home you're buying by $20,000 because they liked the cut of your jib, a few months ago, hysteria would have gripped our city.

The point is that once the market begins to climb out of the basement and soar once more, and history tells us it's only a matter of time, Toronto's real estate has a lot further to go before it hits the proverbial ceiling, than other similar markets. In other words, while prices in say Vancouver and Calgary were arguably significantly inflated, Toronto was only beginning to spread her wings.

When you understand these important facets of the market's reality it becomes increasingly evident why real estate investment should be an even hotter commodity now, than before this market settled in. Condos with significant upside are available today for bargain prices. Those same level-A condos that were attracting multiple-offer bids and achieving prices $20,000 or more than market value, today would sell for, at best, market value. That swing of $20,000 means a more attractive investment, for the buyer.

Looking at new condos for a moment, similar trends can be seen. For example, many of Tridel's Hullmark Centre's units are of a high-priced calibre, one client of mine purchased a unit on the 2nd highest non-penthouse level (46th floor) for around the $315,000 mark. I earmarked such units as the level-A investments in the building, or the best of the best — the cream of the crop. An investment like this is the only investments really worth making, if you plan on making one, because only the smartest money ends up there.

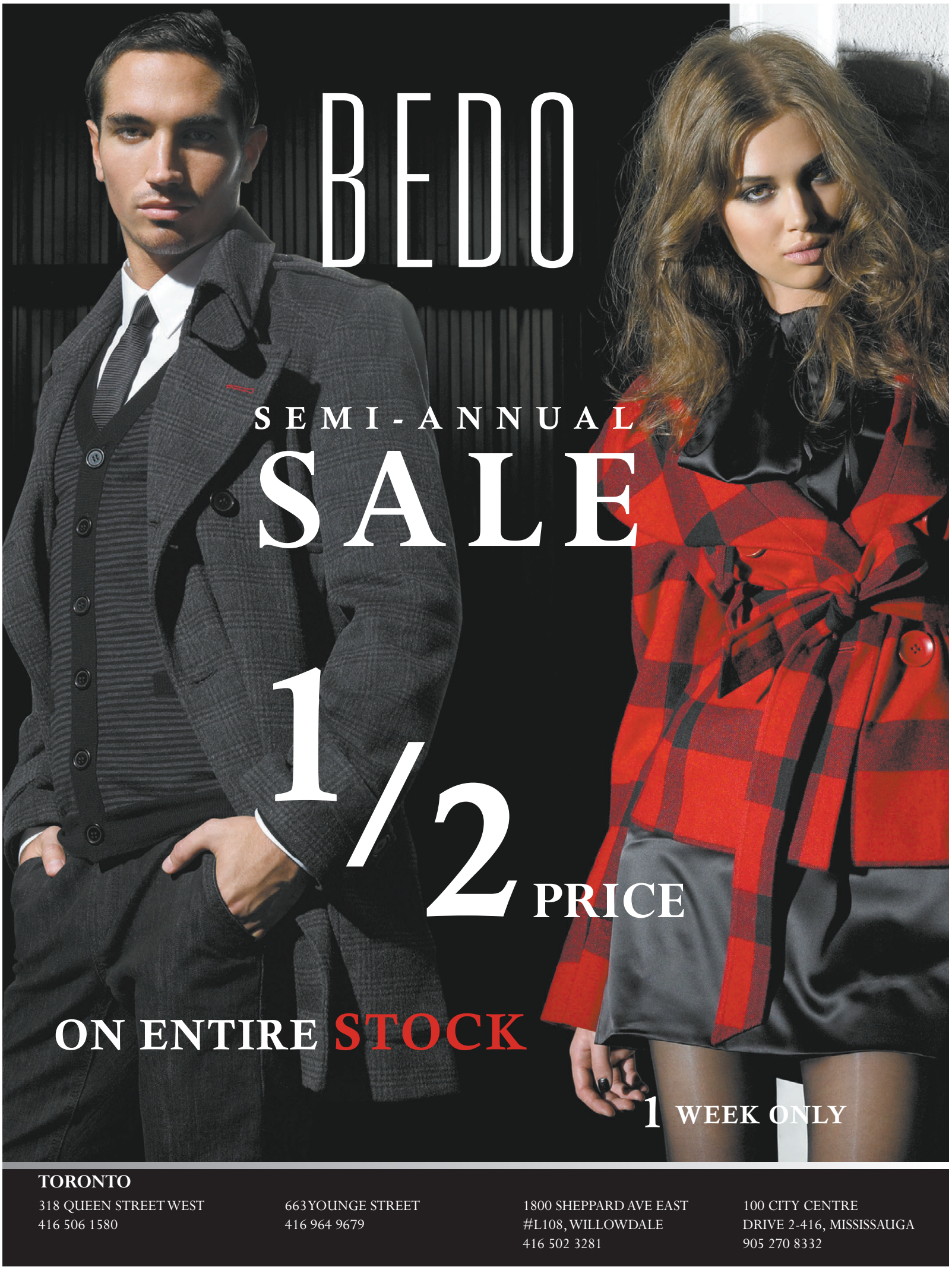
For more information on these A-level investments feel free to contact me at amitp@rogers.com, any time.

Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max. amitp@rogers.com

TheHunt

Amit Paul

amitp@rogers.com



Billy's Best Bottles

"Jean-Charles Boisset created the very successful French Rabbit brand in Tetra which now has a new member, the organic Green Rabbit. This is the best bunny yet — lots of rustic French country character." Read the full column at metronews.ca. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Food

"Avoid limp leeks, as well as those with cracks or swollen bulbs or dried-out and faded leaves. Rounded bulb bottoms may indicate old age, so look for flat bottoms."

Barb Holland/for Metro Canada

Thickness

Choose leeks by the length of their whites and small to medium thickness, as really large leeks can be woody.

EDITOR: NINA DRAGICEVIC, NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONEWS.CA

Give leeks a chance

À **la** carte

Barb Holland

Metro Food Writer

Often bypassed or relegated to the soup pot, leeks, the mild member of the onion family, resemble overgrown green onions.

The fall and winter months are peak months for leeks. The white part, which grows underground, is more tender and adds a subtle and sweeter onion flavour. The green ends are usually cut off at the point where they separate from the bulb and are good in broths, stocks or soups. But too much of the dark green leaves can add a bitter note.

Leeks, along with potatoes, are the key ingredients in the classic chilled soup, vichyssoise. But don't limit leeks to soup; try them in sauces, stir-frys, stews, casseroles, braised in butter, brushed with olive oil and grilled, or in this simple salad.

Leeks in Basil Vinaigrette with Asiago

This appetizer salad can be made about one hour before serving. Makes 4 servings.

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tsp (5 mL) Dijon mustard
- 1 tsp (5 mL) honey
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried basil leaves
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) pepper
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) white wine vinegar
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) olive oil
- 8 medium leeks
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 small red pepper, diced
- Shaved slices Asiago cheese

METHOD:

In small bowl, whisk mustard, honey, vinegar, salt, basil and pepper. Slowly whisk in oil until smooth. Set aside.

Cut off root end and tough green tops of leeks, leaving about 1 inch (2.5 cm) of pale green. Cut in half lengthwise and wash well. Place in a wide saucepan; add garlic and just cover with water. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and cook until tender-crisp, about 2 minutes. Drain, chill under cold water. Drain well and place in shallow dish. Sprinkle red pepper over leeks, pour vinaigrette over all, gently shaking dish to coat. Let stand at room temperature up to 1 hour.

To serve, spoon leeks, red pepper and vinaigrette onto serving plates. Garnish each with Asiago cheese.

Tips:

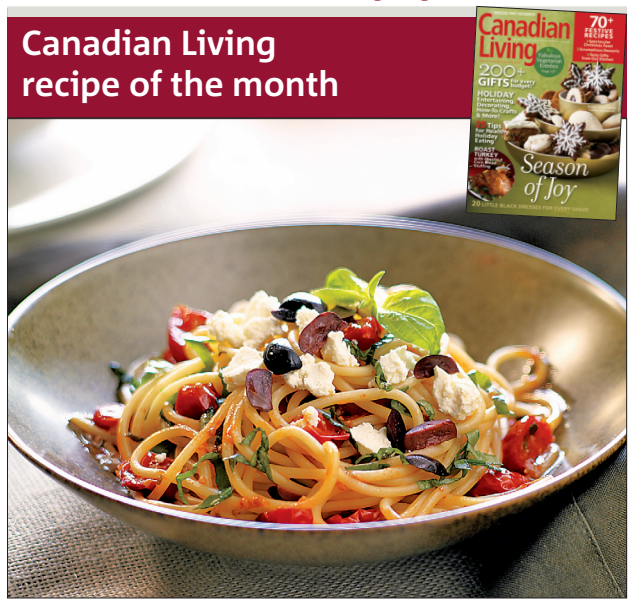
- Storing: Trim any bruised or damaged leaves. If the length is too much for your crisper drawer cut a few inches off the coarse tops. Loosely wrap leeks in a plastic bag for up to one week in the refrigerator.
- Preparation: Trim off roots and any wilted green ends; remove outer layer. Due to the way leeks grow, dirt is often trapped between the leaves. To clean, cut in half lengthwise and rinse under cold running water, separating the leaves so that the water gets between the layers.

Don't overcook leeks, as they tend to get too soft.

Barb Holland is a professional home economist and food writer who believes in shopping locally and in season.

Canadian Living magazine is on sale now!

Canadian Living recipe of the month



Spaghetti with Roasted Cherry Tomato Sauce and Basil

12 oz. spaghetti
1/4 cup minced fresh basil
1/4 cup crumbled goat cheese
1/4 cup sliced pitted black olives

Roasted Cherry Tomato Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

4 cups cherry tomatoes, halved (about 1 lb/500 g)
4 cloves garlic, sliced
3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
2 tsp minced fresh rosemary
1/2 tsp salt
Pinch hot pepper flakes

METHOD:

Roasted Cherry Tomato Sauce: In 13- x 9-inch (3.5 L) metal cake pan, toss together tomatoes, garlic, oil, vinegar, rosemary, salt and hot pepper flakes. Roast in 400°F (200°C) oven until shrivelled, about 25 minutes.

In large pot of boiling salted water, cook pasta until dente, 8 to 10 minutes. Drain and transfer to large serving bowl.

Add tomato sauce and basil, tossing to combine. Sprinkle with goat cheese, olives, and more basil if desired.

Makes 4 servings.

Nutritional Info

1 Serving	
Protein:	14 grams
Fat:	15 grams
Carbohydrates:	72 grams
Fibre:	6 grams
Calories:	474

Are you currently experiencing POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION?

Many new mothers experience a brief period of the "postpartum blues" that is considered in the normal range of health and usually ends one week after birth. However, 13% of mothers develop a clinically serious **postpartum depression.**

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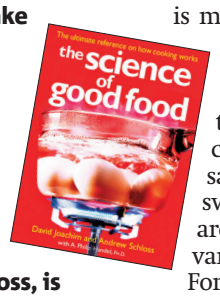
Good health
The Journey to your Good Health pavilion appears at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair at the Direct Energy Centre, starting tomorrow. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Pastries have been filled with cheeses for centuries, and cheesecakes can be sweet or savoury.

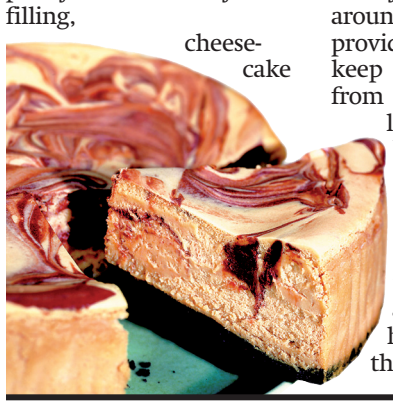
The science of delicious

How do you make the perfect French fry? Is it better to salt a steak before or after grilling? The Science of Good Food, written by David Joachim or Andrew Schloss, is the first book to present the science of good cooking in an easy-to-use, A to Z format. More than 1,600 entries clearly explain the physical and chemical transformations that govern all food preparation and cooking. Metro got a hold of this excerpt about one of the most beloved desserts: The cheesecake.



What It Is

With its cookie crumb or pastry crust and dairy-based filling, cheesecake is more custard tart than cake. Pastries have been filled with various cheeses for centuries, and cheesecakes can be sweet or savoury. Most are sweet and made around the world with various fresh cheeses. For savoury cheesecakes, you can combine ingredients such as cream cheese and smoked salmon or Cheddar cheese and bacon. You can also make cheesecake with other creamy ingredients like silken tofu.



What It Does

Like other custards made with eggs and dairy products, cheesecakes require even gentle heat to prevent curdling. They are often baked in a water bath to evenly distribute the heat around the cake pan and provide moist steam to keep the baked custard from drying out. To avoid lumps, it helps to bring the cheese and eggs to room temperature before mixing the filling and to add the eggs one at a time. Gradual temperature changes also help prevent cracks. If the pan is too small, the filling will rise too high and will overcook on the edges before the centre is done. If the pan is too big, the entire filling may quickly overcook and crack.

fast facts

- On Feb. 21, 2004, in Brooklyn, New York, competitive eater Sonya Thomas ate 11 pounds (five kg) of cheesecake in nine minutes, setting a Guinness World Record.
- Cheesecake Won't Set? When flavouring cheesecakes, avoid mixing in raw pineapple, kiwi, mango or papaya. These fruits contain enzymes that digest proteins in the cheese and eggs, preventing the filling from setting. You can still use them on top, though, as a decoration.

On the web

Recipe:
- Now that you know a bit about cheesecakes, why not make one? Find a recipe from the book for Southern Comfort Cheesecake at metronews.ca.

Food in brief

A ROYAL AFFAIR
This weekend, The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair will roll into town, and roll out the red carpet to thousands of livestock, the biggest giant vegetables you've ever seen, hundreds of farmers and competitors, and over a dozen Olympic equestrian riders, including individual gold medallist Eric Lamaze. For information, visit royalfair.org.

ITALIAN SEASONS
The Italian Trade Commission and 21 of Toronto's finest Italian restaurants bring the passion and romance of Italy to Toronto with the Italian Seasons Food Festival. Starting tomorrow and running until Nov. 22, Toronto's top restaurants will offer authentic Italian menus designed to give you a taste of Italy's diverse regions. For participating restaurants and menu details visit italianseasonsfestival.com.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

Gift guide special! Our editors share their fashion, beauty and decor wish lists, only in our December issue! STYLE

CONTENT BY ELLE CANADA ellecanada.com

Postcards from the edge

Mia Kirshner's dangerous journey

By **Noreen Flangan**
Executive Editor

Years before Madonna put Malawi on the map, Mia Kirshner headed to the small African country to write about its crippling AIDS crisis. The actress — best known for her exploits on Showtime's The L Word — was on a mission to raise awareness about refugees in regions of the world that, until then, had received little press.

Before Malawi, the 33-year-old actress travelled to Ingushetia to visit Chechen refugee camps and to the Thai-Burma border to interview women who had fled the brutal Burmese dictatorship. Kirshner's third stop — on what turned out to be a seven-year journey — was the Mexican city of Juárez. There, she hoped to learn more about the estimated 400 women — economic refugees who worked in maquiladoras, or factories — who had been murdered or were missing and presumed dead.

Drawing upon her experiences, Kirshner worked with writer J. B. MacKinnon and creative directors Paul Shoebridge and Michael Simons, as well as artists like Joe Sacco and Phoebe Gloeckner, to create I Live Here. Through journals, pictures and graphic novellas, this thoughtful and evocative four-volume anthology tells the stories of the refugees Kirshner met. (Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to Amnesty International.)

"I wrote the book because I was feeling creatively dead," she recalls. "I began to examine my world view and realized that I'd lived a sheltered life" In the end, the experience "radically blew" her life apart. "It made me want smaller things in my life but larger things to fill my soul."

GREY'S ANATOMY

With eyes dusted in shimmery-grey eyeshadow, the models at Ferragamo looked celestial. This softer spin on the dramatic smoky eye has an understated, ethereal feel, says CoverGirl makeup pro Paul Venoit. Sweep a pale grey on the entire lid and apply a darker shade in the crease, blending up and out toward the temple. Curl the lashes and finish with two coats of volumizing mascara.

Maybelline New York Define-A-Lash Volume Mascara in Very Black ($10)

Guerlain Ombre Éclat 4 Shades Eyeshadow in Perle D'Argent 480 ($60)

Estée Lauder Signature Silky Powder Blush in Peachh Nuance ($27.50)

Lise Watier Sheer & Shine in Or Rose ($18)

CoverGirl Eye Enhancers 4-Kit Shadows in Drama Eyes ($7

BLACK ICE

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Rhinestone and metal necklace, K'ien **($52, 1-888-477-KIEN)**

Metal and resin brooch, Noa Noa **($35, *agencemelaniemclean.com*)**

Rhodium and onyx bracelet, Myka **($180, *mykadesigns.com*)**

STUDIO ANDRÉ DOYON

EDITORS' PICK

Film Noir

Vamp nails turned us on to goth; now, dark, lacquered lips are stealing the spotlight. Models at the YSL fall show wore the brand's limited-edition noir lipgloss with black bowl-cut bobs. For instant drama, sick some on alone or, if you're feeling more like a wallflower, brush it over red lipstick for a blackened cherry pout.

YSL Gloss Pur Pure Lip Gloss in 49 ($34)

KNIT ONE, PURL TWO

As luxury knitwear label Lutz & Patmos' guest designer this season, Kirsten Dunst joins alumni that includes Liv Tyler, Richard Meier, Julianne Moore and Marie Antoinette director Sofia Coppola. The actress pays homage to her ancestry with a pair of simple, skinny crewneck sweaters dubbed Opi and Omi (which is German for "Grandpa" and "Grandma"). As Patmos says, enthusiastic fashion guests bring a new perspective and a fresh eye to the design process. ("And it's fun!" says Patmos.) Watch for a collaboration with Jane Birkin, Serge Gainsbourg's ex and Hermès-bag muse, next spring. NATHALIE ATKINSON

Intelligent Nutrients Innercalm ($65) and Total Body Cleanser ($39)

HIGHER INTELLIGENCE

Shouldn't what we put on our bodies be just as safe as what we put in our bodies? Aveda founder Horst Rechelbacher thinks so, which is why he created Intelligent Nutrients, a line of biodynamic, organic-based personal-care products and supplements that's launching in Canada this fall. "We have food-grade ingredients," he says. The collection includes fragrances and skin-care and hair products, as well as Intellimune Oil, an antioxidant-rich blend that can be ingested or applied topically. MICHELLE VILLETT

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cleansing

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Bench store opening
U.K. fashion brand Bench has opened their first retail stores in North America at Toronto Eaton Centre and Fairview Mall. Established in 1989, Bench has since become renowned as a brand that offers multifunctional, comfortable, wearable fashion. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Style

Michelle Obama wears Rodriguez dress

The striking red-and-black dress that Michelle Obama wore Tuesday night as her husband became president-elect of the United States was designed by Narciso Rodriguez. It was based on a style shown during Rodriguez's spring '09 runway show in New York. Meanwhile, president-elect Barack Obama wore the same style dark-navy suit custom-made by Hart Schaffner Marx that he wore at the Democratic Convention, the company says.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE COLACINO, ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

Home on the range

New film Australia inspires a ranch-style wardrobe

ANN-MARIE COLACINO/METRO CANADA

Shirtdress made of hemp fabric blended with recycled polyester, Tiley (*tilley.com*), $149

Fringed scarf, Smart Set, $15

ABOVE: Fedora made of 100 per cent premium fur felt, Tilley (*tilley.com*), $145

Gloves, Joe Fresh, $24

Belts, counter-clockwise from top: leather, Esprit, 39.50, perforated and studded belt, Payless, $12.99, black plaque buckle belt, Payless, $12.99

ABOVE: Button Front Skirt, Tilley (*tilley.com*)$119,

High-waisted trousers made of recycled wool, H&M, $59.90

ABOVE: Printed blouse, Old Navy, $34.50

LEFT: Leather Browns ID boots, $398

LEFT: Belted suede skirt, Le Chateau, $99.95

RIGHT: The Payless Airwalk Ralston fringe boot, $74.99

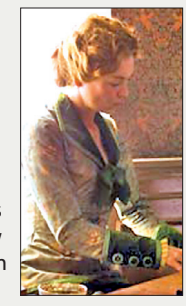
Frontier fashion

Life on the ranch isn't a new concept for Hollywood: it's been the setting of many great plots. The following are a few that show off how chic frontier life can be.

• Australia (2008):

Staring Nicole Kidman, this epic film has Kidman's aristocratic character donning feminine neck scarves, oxford shirts, high-waisted trousers and the re-emerging Frye boot trend.

• Appaloosa (2008):

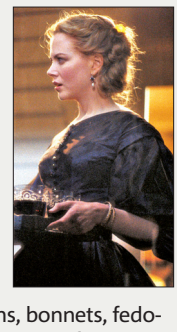


Renée Zellweger plays a woman of mystery in this western that features the actress beautifully outfitted in tailored late 1800s embroidered jackets and long, flowing skirts.

• The Missing (2003):

Keeping warm from the New Mexico chill, protagonist Cate Blanchett dresses in long ponchos, fedoras, chunky belts, neck scarves and floor-length A-line skirts in this 19th century-based thriller.

• Cold Mountain (2003):



This American Civil War-era film has Nicole Kidman and Renée Zellweger clad in long-sleeved floral gowns, bonnets, fedoras and collared oxford shirts.

ANN-MARIE COLACINO / METRO CANADA

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Prolong the life of leather, suede and snakeskin shoes with protectant sprays and lotions. With prices all under $15, Tana Shoe Cosmetics are a good idea (*tana.ca*). Also, treating men's ties in protectant can help spills like coffee just roll off. METRO NEWS SERVICE

Essential outerwear

Style File

Kim Elbo
kim.elbo@metronews.ca

ask kim

Some of my girlfriends use Bare Escentuals (the natural mineral make-up) and love it. I'm looking to try it out, but I was wondering if there are any other brands out there like this?

If you're looking to reduce your application time, try Canadian make-up line Mistura. It's a one shade make-up system for all skin colours, and it takes only seconds to put on. Also, try out their lipstick and glosses — they're packed with vitamins. (*misturabeauty.com*)

E-mail your style questions to *kim.elbo@metronews. ca.*

Vancouver's Kim Elbo has a passion for fashion. Here she shares the latest style tips.

Down Filled
Designer: Joe Fresh
Shop: Superstore
Address: Various Locations
joe.ca

Puffy
Designer: Mexx
Shop: Mexx
Address: Various Locations

Quilted
Designer: Peak Performance
Shop: Peak Performance
Address: Various Locations
peakperformance.com

Faux Fur
Designer: Gap
Shop: Gap
Address: Various Locations
gap.com

Plaid
Designer: American Eagle
Shop: American Eagle
Address: Various Locations
ae.com

Knit
Designer: Goorin Brothers
Shop: *goorin.com*
Address: Various locations

winter vests

Step outside with stylish outerwear this winter. Puffy vests are essential outerwear pieces; they're perfect for long hikes or for skiing on the slopes. I prefer these featured vests as they're easy to layer with, easy to wear and far from looking like the Michelin man mascot. Look for those little extras like inner and outer pockets, hoods or big funnel necks to keep extra warm. Compensate for having no sleeves and buy a vest that is down-filled — the feathers are great for extra insulation.

accessory
Support others in need. Donate $5 and receive this Spring leather bracelet. One hundred per cent of the proceeds will benefit War Child, $5. Available at Spring, *myspringshoes.com*.

trapper hats

The name for this type of hat isn't that appealing, but fortunately the hat design is. Trapper hats are far from what they used to be back in the day. Today, faux fur, fleece and knits replace leather and fur, making them more wearable and inexpensive. One of my favourites is the Gap trapper — it's simple in design and very warm. Meanwhile, a great gift idea is the plaid American Eagle hat, which has a bottle opener on the side. It's perfect for a party trick!

tip: Wash your down jackets or vest and tumble dry immediately inside out with tennis balls at a maximum of 50 C for five hours. Take out garment every half hour and press down by hand to avoid clotting. — *peakperformance.com*.

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GlobalStyle

Office-to-event tips

JANINE FALCON
for Metro Canada

Glamming up for a party is easy when you have hours to primp. But a day at the office doesn't come with much pre-party prep time. We consulted with three pros on quick changes to take us from the daily grind to deck-the-halls.

Transform your look from day to night using a daring collection like this Sparkle Eye Palette 02 from The Body Shop, $24.50. Add some shimmer to your pout with Quo Night Light Lip Gloss, below, $15. Available at Shopper's Drug Mart.

Alissia Marciano, fashion stylist on the international hit TV show "Look-A-Like"

A black or winter-white suit is a snap to festive up if it's already sharp. "You want the jacket to fit perfectly across the shoulders and at the waist," says Marciano. "The pants should be fitted at the waist, fit well in the seat, and flare into long, wide legs." Team with a lace-and-silk cap-sleeve camisole to reveal later when you ditch your jacket. Accessorize for night with jewelled cuffs, an oversize clutch, and hot shoes, perhaps in red or an exotic-skin or embellished finish.

Wearing a chic black skirt or dress-suit? Switch black tights to red or purple, or lace (not fishnet), says Marciano. Glitz up with oversize button earrings.

Another option is a solid colour pencil skirt and a feminine blouse in a vibrant pattern or with a big, gorgeous, floppy bow, à la Vivienne Westwood. Swap work flats for knock-out heels, add a vintage purse, and go.

"Smoky eyes over your day makeup takes no time at all."
Chase Aston, The Body Shop makeup artist

gi-photos to see where they show up most attractively.

Chase Aston, international makeup artist for The Body Shop

"Smoky eyes over your day makeup takes no time at all," insists Aston, who has worked with Kate Moss and Cameron Diaz. Sweep silver shadow over the lid to just above the crease. Line upper lashline with black pencil, then blend a fat line of dark grey or navy metallic shadow over the it into a sideways 'V' on the outer corner of the lid. Line the lower inner rim with black pencil, refresh your mascara, and dab sparkly gloss on lips to finish.

Ben Skervin, hair stylist to Keira Knightly and Cat Deeley; Global Hair Stylist for Head & Shoulders

Hot rollers at the office? If you have an opaque door, why not? Skervin suggests popping them in before adjusting your make-up. Afterward, run fingers through the curls, mist with hairspray et voilà, va-va-va-volume.

"Or pull your hair back in a smooth bun and step up your make-up," says Skervin. Try a couple of sparkly clips close to the bun; take di-

Ben Skervin, stylist to Keira Knightly, says a glamourous party look is pulling back hair into a tight bun and stepping up your make-up.

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Dunst probes voting system
Kirsten Dunst has launched an investigation of the U.S. voting system in a new documentary. Dunst has teamed up with filmmaker Jacob Soboroff to direct and produce the film, exploring why American voter participation lags behind turnout in most other countries. **IMDB.COM**

Entertainment

The Tourist
Charlize Theron is in talks to join the thriller The Tourist. She would play a female agent on the hunt for an elusive ex-boyfriend, who becomes a wanted man. IMDB.COM

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Eagles of Death Metal soar

Eagles of Death **Metal**

Album: Heart On
Label: MapleMusic/Universal
Rating: ●●●●

WHAT STARTED OFF as a side project for Queens of the Stone Age frontman Josh Homme on drums and childhood friend Jesse Hughes on vocals has quickly become a rock music force in its own right. On their latest, the duo plays up their love of everything sex and girls, but while it might be offensive to some, it's mostly just fun. Throw in fuzzed-out blues guitars, pounding beats and infectious vocals and you have a must-listen record.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

The **Cure**

Album: 4:13
Label: Geffen/Universal
Rating: ●●●

THE CURE'S PROPENSITY for dark, brooding tunes isn't as immediately apparent on this disc. The record is filled with soaring pop choruses, slick, layered instrumentation and generally upbeat sounding vocals, making this more of a straight-up rock record than a classic Cure release. However, it is a solid effort that easily competes with the young upstarts that have ripped off the band's sound. A great addition to their robust oeuvre.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

The Waking **Eyes**

Album: Holding On To Whatever It Is **Label:** Warner
Rating: ●●●

THESE WINNIPEG POP-rockers got a lot of hype four years ago when they were starting out, but we haven't heard much since. The lead single, All Empires Fall, sets a sound direction in guitar rock that will probably get them back on the radio, as will the utterly danceable Clap Clap. The band has a tad too much fun, however, planting unabashed nods among the tracks to favourite bands from the past like The Payolas, Queen and 10CC. Waking Eyes should be spending a little more time charting its own course.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Travis

Album: Ode To J Smith
Label: Red Telephone Box/Fontana North
Rating: ●●●½

BEFORE GIVING WAY to the austere, gentle melancholia that Coldplay, Keane and Snow Patrol would adopt, Travis debuted as an edgier, guitar-driven slice of Britpop with a hit single in 1997's All I Want To Do Is Rock. Album No. 6 proceeds to do just that — whereby these Scots revisit what made them tick early on. The nostalgic sound trip is certainly reinvigorating — although with more lyrical thought, this could have been a major contender to one-up the latest Oasis and Verve releases.

Ian Nathanson/for Metro Canada

Heart On is the new album from Eagles of Death Metal.

Suzie **McNeil**

Album: Rock-n-Roller
Label: Universal
Rating: ●●

THIS SHOULD BE the kind of music that never goes out of style. Power rock with a beautiful blonde hitting all the right notes while teetering on a pair of heels that look like knitting needles. It worked for Sheryl Crow and Amanda Marshall. But it only works if you have something new and special to offer. Otherwise it just comes off as old, tired and cliched. So what do we get from Suzie? Party invitations and reminders that our dreams can move mountains. It all sounds so sterile ... so L.A. It belongs in a fern bar. And we're going to get really sick of that song Believe by the time the Olympics roll around.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Music**Reviews**
music@metronews.ca

Hinder

Album: Take It To The Limit
Label: Universal
Rating: ●●

LIKE IT OR NOT, Hinder matters. There are always going to be young guys out there who like to drink to excess, admire the physical attributes of women and enjoy casual sex — preferably all in the same night. Bottoms up, boys — this is your soundtrack. Is there anything new here? Of course not. It's instantly forgettable, overwrought, hard rock with the occasional perfunctory power ballad.

Jim Reyno/Metro Canada

Burton **Cummings**

Album: Above The Ground
Label: Sony BMG
Rating: ●●●

THERE WAS A point in Cummings' career when his voice almost parodied itself. Thankfully, recent tours with Randy Bachman seem to have brought that annoying rock yodel under control. He's in fine voice for his first solo album of new material in almost 20 years. While the 19 rockers on Above The Ground aren't going to win new converts, old fans will find them more than acceptable.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Gay group praises Grey's Anatomy

TV A leading gay rights group has praised bosses of hit TV show Grey's Anatomy for its recent lesbian plotline, despite the news that one of the gay characters is to be axed, imdb.com reports.

Brooke Smith plays cardiac surgeon Erica Hahn, who is romantically involved with Sara Ramirez's character Dr. Calliope "Callie" Torres. But it was recently announced that Smith has been dropped from the series.

will.i.am pens Obama tribute

will.i.am

MUSIC Rap star will.i.am is releasing a new song and video to mark Barack Obama's win in the U.S. presidential election, BBC News Online reports.

The musician spent election night editing It's A New Day, which is set to make its online debut this week. The Black Eyed Peas singer said the song was a tribute to the American people.

Deftones bassist injured in crash

MUSIC The bass player for the Deftones is in a San Jose hospital following a serious car crash, The Associated Press reports.

The rock band's singer, Chino Moreno, says 38-year-old Chi Cheng was injured in the crash Monday in Santa Clara. Moreno told the Sacramento Bee that he didn't have many details but that it's very serious. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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Bend it like a comic horror

Bend It Like Beckham director Gurinder Chadha is working on a horror comedy for her next film, titled It's a Wonderful Afterlife. The new project is a cross between My Big Fat Greek Wedding and Shaun of the Dead, she says. **ANANOVA.COM**

Film festival turns lens on illness

EVENT The Rendezvous with Madness Film Festival is back to explore the facts and myths associated with mental illness and addiction.

Kicking off the festival today at 7 p.m. is the opening night gala screening of Four Minutes (Vier Minuten) by Chris Kraus of Germany.

The event will hold post-screening panel discussions with people who receive mental health and addiction services, as well as actors, writers, directors, academics and health-care professionals.

Films from Canada, India, Hong Kong, Germany, Israel, Hungary, Argentina, the United States and the United Kingdom will screen at the festival, which runs until Nov. 15. All films are being screened at Workman Theatre, 1001 Queen St. W.

Tickets are available through TicketWeb at ticketweb.ca or by phone at 1-888-222-6608.

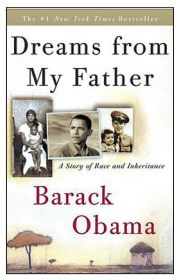
METRO NEWS SERVICES

A page out of victory

Online sales of Obama's books rise after election win

Barack Obama's historic victory has given yet another boost to his million-selling books, Dreams from My Father and The Audacity of Hope.

Both were in the Top 25 on Amazon.com's best-seller list early yesterday, soon after the Illinois Democrat defeated Republican John McCain to become president of the United States.



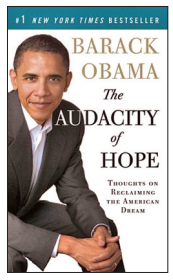
Dreams from My Father, a memoir released in the 1990s when few had heard of Obama, and Audacity of Hope, a reflection on politics that came out in 2006 and helped to solidify his national following, have far outsold any of the anti-Obama books that came out last summer.

JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

U.S. president elect Barak Obama.

The most notable and best-selling attack against Obama, Jerome Corsi's Obama Nation, was ranked No. 466 on Amazon.com early yesterday. Corsi was co-author of the highly effective Unfit for Command at the centre of the "Swift Boat" attack against defeated Democratic presidential contender John Kerry in 2004.

Conservatives had hoped Corsi's current book would prove equally influential in the 2008 election. The Obama Nation was released by



Threshold Editions, an imprint of Simon & Schuster run by Republican strategist Mary Matalin.

"The Swift Boat book appeared to have a devastating effect on the polls in 2004," said Adrian Zackheim, head of the conservative Sentinel imprint at Penguin Group (USA). "It was my impression that the books about the candidates didn't have much of an effect on a lot of voters this time. There seems to have been a lot of different forces at play."

One sobering fact on the Amazon.com list: The No. 1 book at the time of Obama's victory was I.O.U.S.A.: One Nation. Under Stress. In Debt, by Addison Wiggin and Kate Incontrera.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Author Crichton dead at 66

FAREWELL The family of Michael Crichton, the million-selling author of such historic and prehistoric science fantasies as Jurassic Park, Timeline and The Andromeda Strain, says the writer has died in Los Angeles.

Crichton died Tuesday at age 66. He had been battling cancer, said his family, who added in a statement that Crichton "illuminated the mysteries of the world in a way we could all understand."

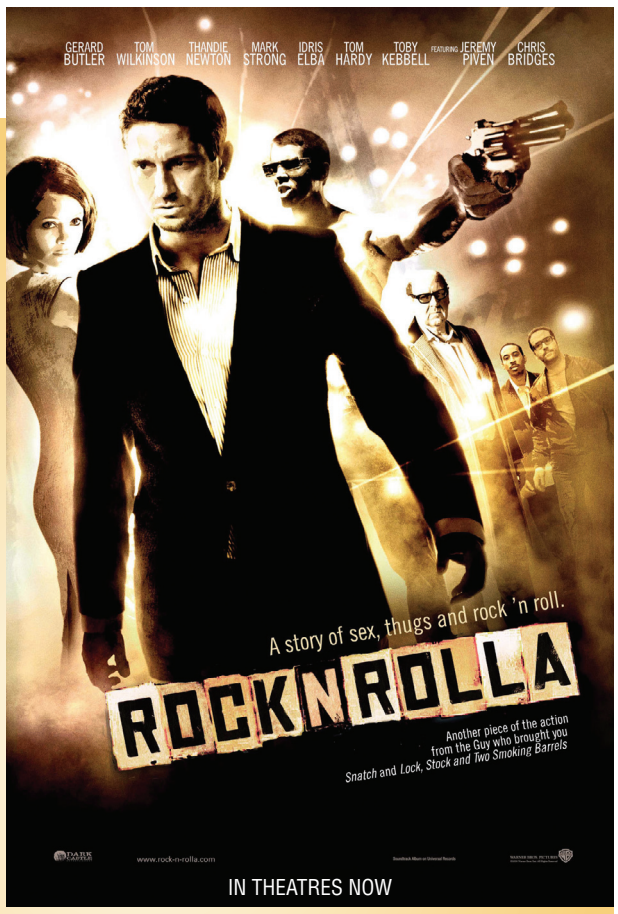
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Musical wants to cast youngsters

THEATRE Producers of the musical Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, which runs Dec. 24 to Jan. 4 at the Canon Theatre, need six children under 4-foot-10, between 8 and 12 years old, to play orphans in the story about the magical car.

Auditions are tomorrow before 9 a.m. at the Princess of Wales Theatre, 300 King St. W. For more information, call 416-593-0351, ext. 520.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Farewell to Frank

NewsAnalysis

Scott Taylor

Editor of Esprit de Corps

No one in officialdom ever admitted to reading Frank (much less subscribing to it) ... Nevertheless, government researchers and executive assistants were dispatched surreptitiously every second Tuesday to pick up the first copies.

The sudden announcement last week that Frank had permanently expired hit me like the death of a close friend, or at least the passing of an old family pet. As Canada's only national satirical publication, Frank magazine has been a guilty pleasure for news junkies since 1989. It was at that juncture that Micheal Bate came on board as senior editor, to expand what had begun as a local Halifax lampoon digest into a full-blown mockery machine aimed directly at the Canadian social elite.

Frank made no pretension to comfort the afflicted, and they didn't just afflict the comfortable; they essentially tore them a new one at every opportunity. During its 19 years in publication, it was undoubtedly the most powerful media outlet on Parliament Hill. No one in officialdom ever admitted to reading Frank, and the damning revelations unearthed in its pages were contemptuously dismissed by those targetted as being yellow journalism, half truths, and slanderous innuendo. Nevertheless, government researchers and executive assistants were dispatched surreptitiously every second Tuesday to newsstands.

The Frank team was only staffed by a couple of writers, but their sources extended far and wide. Many members of the Press Gallery knew they could float rumours in Frank, protect their sources, and then use Access to Information to acquire the official briefing notes prepared in response to the original article. The fact that Frank served as a conduit for whistleblowers inside the Public Service, and hence as a beacon for mainstream media outlets to uncover potential scandals was reason enough for the ruling elite to fear its existence. However, what really made the chattering class tremble was the sophomoric manner in which Frank pilloried them. It was truly brilliant, at times gut-busting humour based on their own brand of Frank-speak. (For instance, stock phrases such as horizontal mambo, avid pianist and wind therapy to describe specific sexual infidelities).

Frank survived a number of lawsuits, and a couple of ownership changes during its lifespan, but Micheal Bate, who sold the publication in 2003 and took control again in 2005, has finally decided to call it quits. With readership down to the current low of just 5,000 copies per edition, Bates said he had no choice but to cease publication. "I just could not foresee us turning the corner back into profitability, and the financial backers were not prepared to invest any more money," he said.

Frank will be both mourned and missed.

Scott Taylor is the Ottawa-based publisher/editor of Esprit de Corps, a columnist, and author of six best-sellers including Among the 'Others': The Forgotten Turkmen of Iraq.

Weekend show woos women

NOELLE MUNARETTO
for Metro Canada

The National Women's Show, making a stop at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre this weekend, is offering women of all ages the chance to shop and schmooze for "The Ultimate Girl's Day Out."

The National Women's Show opens tomorrow.

"It's a chance for women to go out and have fun as women," says Tanya Williams, the show's promotions and strategic planner. "There's tons of samples from food to wine, and makeup and shopping galore."

This year's highlights include Pick Ontario demonstrations where participants can learn how to create floral arrangements using Ontario flowers, runway shows featuring Linda Lundström fashions, and an appearance from TV soap opera star Daniel Goddard.

Aside from these special events, Williams says that women can look forward to getting lifestyle advice from more than 425 exhibitors. The show is divided into six different areas: Fashion and Style District, Beauty and Wellness, Health and Fitness, World Of Taste, Business and Career Centre and Home Style Pavilion. That way, women can easily locate what they're interested in. "There's just such a range of things people can do," says Williams. "It covers every single thing women would want to know and be educated about."

Williams says the show is also a great bonding experience for women. She has seen groups of friends, mother-daughter duos, and even 80-year-old women in attendance.

"Over 100,000 women across Canada have experienced at least one show," she says.

The National Women's Show runs at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre from tomorrow to Sunday. General admission is $14. For more information, visit nationalwomenshow.com/toronto.

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Funnyman Brand rumoured to play 'Pirates' Sparrow bro

Comedian Russell Brand is reportedly in negotiations to join the cast of the fourth Pirates Of The Caribbean movie. Brand is rumoured to be in line to play the brother of Johnny Depp's character, Captain Jack Sparrow. IMDB.COM

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Suzuki family embraces environment in new doc

David Suzuki, scientist and environmentalist icon, is ever the realist.

The reality is that "we're in deep trouble and we've been sleepwalking into the future," he says.

But in spite of the almost daily revelations about global warming, pollution and climate change, Suzuki is also an optimist.

"With children and grandchildren I can't give up and say it's too late. It's very, very late, but you have to have hope."

Some of that hope can be seen in The Suzuki Diaries, part travelogue and part environmental crusade.

The documentary is also, in part, the lament of a man who has spent four decades preaching, ranting and railing against the tide of environmental degradation.

In the documentary airing Nov. 16 on CBC (8 p.m.), he tells viewers in one revealing aside that he's in "the last part of my life" and the future is in the hands of the young.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Environmentalist David Suzuki travelled across Europe with his daughter Sarika Cullis-Suzuki for The Suzuki Diaries, a documentary which will air on CBC Nov. 16.

One of those is youngest daughter Sarika, a 25-year-old marine scientist who accompanies him on a three-week journey through parts of Europe where they examine renewable energy efforts and preach sustainability.

The Suzuki Diaries, environmental messages aside, is also a gorgeous travelogue, taking father and daughter on tours of Germany, Denmark, the Loire Valley in France, and Spain.

In the boardroom of the Suzuki Foundation offices, with Sarika at his side, the two discuss the program — and their philosophies.

"You have to cling to that hope," Suzuki tells Sarika, "but the reality is the indicators.

"When I hear that 20 per cent of birds may be gone by the middle of the century, that 80 per cent of the mammals might be gone by the end of the century, when I hear that honey bees are disappearing for reasons we don't understand ... those things fill me with fear because we are the top predator on the planet."

Sarika understands her father's concern. She's heard it before, "day in and day out."

They undertook the trip to examine renewable energy efforts around the world and to use them to inspire others.

What they found were solutions from Denmark's wind turbines and bicycle revolution in Copenhagen, to vegetable oil energy in Germany, and solar energy in France and Spain.

"We should be talking about building a society that is truly sustainable, building a society that is fun and where you can be happy." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Wedded bliss ahead for Hunter and Stoll
Model Rachel Hunter is planning her wedding to Canadian hockey player Jarret Stoll and has revealed she can't wait to start a family with him. "But we will be waiting until after the wedding," she says. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Steve Carrell tapped for Smart part 2

SEQUEL Comedic actor Steve Carell has reportedly been tapped for a forthcoming sequel to his spy-themed action film Get Smart, imdb.com reports.

The summer blockbuster's huge commercial success landed Carell a multimillion-dollar three-movie deal with studio Warner Bros. last month.

The deal does not include any more secret agent sequels.

But, according to the New York Daily News, studio bosses are "moving forward" on the project — in which Carell will reportedly have producer credit.

One studio insider tells the publication: "He's not asking for ridiculous money. It's not green-lit yet, but it's in active development," while a Warner Bros. spokesperson said the studio's relationship with the actor was "great."

Get Smart has grossed more than $230 million US worldwide to date.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Tighter budgets mean big bellies, Jamie Oliver says

Celebrity chef Jamie Oliver says he's worried about what the credit crunch will do to people's waistlines.

Oliver says the U.K. faces a health crisis because millions of Britons can't cook basic meals. He wants the British government to offer cookery classes to low-income families to show them how to prepare cheap and healthy dishes during the credit crunch.

He told a British parliamentary committee yesterday that those with tight budgets are likely to chose reliable but unhealthy foods — rather than experiment with recipes.

He said for the first time in history, many families live on takeaways because they can't cook.

The chef is campaigning to raise the standard of school meals.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crooner has tumour removed

ILLNESS Merle Haggard is recovering after having a malignant tumour removed from his lung.

Friends said Monday's surgery at Bakersfield Memorial Hospital in California was a success and that the country crooner, 71, is in stable condition.

Doctors informed Haggard, who's from a Bakersfield suburb, about a spot on his lung in May.

He told The Bakersfield Californian in August that he wasn't going to seek treatment, but friends and family members convinced him otherwise.

Haggard became a household name after the anthem Okie From Muskogee hit No. 1 in 1969.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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– Sara Bareilles

No 'I do's' for Olsen

There are no wedding bells in Ashley Olsen's near future, according to her rep. "Contrary to several tabloid reports, Ashley Olsen is not engaged to be married," Nicole Caruso said in a statement. "Ashley is dating Justin Bartha and they are very happy." PEOPLE.COM

Fame game

JEFF HODSON
Metro Canada

Despite playing two leading roles in one of television's hottest Sci-Fi shows, Vancouver actress Grace Park still basks in the (relative) anonymity of her hometown.

"Battlestar (Galactica) has had a lot of success, but is still underground," said Park yesterday. "It hasn't broken into mainstream. Your average Joe in Wyoming won't know who I am. If I went to Nebraska a lot of people would be like, 'Who's that Chinese girl?'"

Park, 34, who is of Korean descent, was born in California and moved as a toddler to Vancouver.

Her first real acting role was in the CBC teen-drama Edgemont and she currently stars in Battlestar and A&E's The Cleaner. Beginning Monday, Park can also be seen as U.S. Homeland Security Agent Liz Carver in the final six episodes of CBC's The Border.

But despite the busy schedule, Park said her fame is limited — something she relishes.

"I thought it was better to be special, but after a while, I think it's better to be normal ... people complain that there's no star system in Canada, but it's kind of a relief."

Park said there's something "slightly underground suppressive" about Canadian culture that edges away from celebrity hype.

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SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE BOMBA, STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Smaller items hot for holidays

NOELLE MUNARETTO
for Metro Canada

Entertaining friends and family during the holiday season is a great way to celebrate the festive time of year. But before you get started planning the ultimate holiday bash, it's important to take note of this season's hottest party trends.

Gone are the days of oversized punch bowls and large fruit pies. For food and beverages during the holidays, party planners are saying the best things come in the smallest packages.

Chris Klugman, a chef from Toronto food and catering company All The Best Fine Foods, explains that one of this year's party trends includes using specialty food items that are sold in small amounts.

"People are looking for exquisite small things, little things that make people think that they're spoiled," says Klugman.

He says fancy salts, rare artisan cheeses from Ontario and Quebec, rich pâtés, and decadent specialty chocolates are all holiday party must-haves.

In order to further impress your guests, Klugman suggests researching traditional family dishes and incorporating them into your party menu.

"People are looking back towards what has been in the family in the past," he says. "It's not mind-blowingly innovative work, just really good quality, what your grandmother would have prepared."

Another food trend for holiday parties is to use pomegranate in desserts and salads, says Melinda Limbertie, a catering and events planner for Daniel et Daniel.

Fancy salts and rare artisan cheeses are holiday party must-haves, says Chris Klugman of catering company All The Best Fine Foods.

"It's just very festive, in its colour and its shape," she says.

Like Klugman, Limbertie also says small portions of hearty comfort foods are popular this year. That means people will be craving soup and chili, as well as slow-cooked meats. Limbertie says braised short ribs and slow-cooked lamb shanks are this year's crowd-pleasers.

For dessert, offer your guests sweet treats such as mini macaroons, spicy Mexican hot chocolate, and pomegranate cheesecake.

Alongside the fabulous food, LCBO product consultant Geoff Kahnert suggests breaking out the bubbly.

"If you're going to be doing holiday entertaining, a sparkling wine is the way to welcome people into your home," says Kahnert.

Other holiday cocktail trends include using cranberry juice, berry-flavoured vodkas and liqueurs, and fresh berry garnishes. Kahnert says mixing up cocktails in large batches and keeping them in a beautiful pitcher is less fussy.

If you're looking to serve wine with holiday party food, Kahnert says to bring your menu into the LCBO where a product consultant can suggest the right pairings.

Whatever beverages you offer, Kahnert says the most important part of the holiday season is "to be a socially responsible host." Be aware of how much people are consuming, offer mocktails for those who do not drink alcohol, arrange for taxi pick-ups, and have someone monitoring the bar.

Recipes online

- For holiday party recipes, including The Best Red Pepper and Feta Spread by Jane Rodmell of All The Best and drinks recipes from the LCBO of Sour Berry Soda and Wild African Berry, both pictured right, visit metronews.ca

Some rules to tree decorating

JIM REYNO
jim.reyno@metronews.ca

Pick one, put it up, stick stuff on it. That's all there is to Christmas-tree decorating, right?

Not so fast, Rudolph. There are some basic rules you should follow. Metro spoke with gardening guru Kate Seaver of Markham about getting the most out of your tree time.

First things first: If you're getting a real tree, put safety first. And if you plan to keep your tree up until Jan. 6, the traditional end of the Christmas season, it shouldn't go on the stand before Dec. 15.

It's showtime

- The fourth annual Seasons Christmas Show takes place Nov. 21 to 23 at the International Centre in Mississauga.
- For more, go to seasonsshow.com.

Once it's up, the tree needs nourishment. Seaver, owner of Kate's Garden, recommends water and ginger ale — about half a can per two quarts of water.

"You have to water the stand every day, and the ginger ale actually helps keep the needles soft," says Seaver, who will present Tree Decorating 101 at the Seasons Christmas Show at the International Centre in Mississauga.

"And it can't be the diet ginger ale; it has to be the good, sugary ginger ale."

Also, make sure your tree isn't scraping your ceiling. Give it a couple of feet. OK, so the tree is up. Now it's time to decorate. Seaver says light up first.

"The rule of thumb for lighting the tree: For every foot of tree, you need 50 lights," she says. "I actually prefer to use the 50 strings because they're easier to manipulate. So if you've got a seven-foot tree, you need seven sets of 50. That gives a nicely lit tree."

Seasons Christmas Show "Festival of Trees" designed by Reeves Florist and Nursery.

When it comes to ornamentation, vary the sizes. Go big in back, medium in the middle.

"The smallest balls are the ones that you use at the tips," Seaver says. "It just adds so much dimension to the tree, it's not even funny. That variance in size is a huge difference."

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Blonsky befriends Betty

Hairspray star Nikki Blonsky has been handed an early 20th birthday treat — a starring guest role on the hit TV show Ugly Betty. The actress, who turns 20 this weekend, will play an assistant at fashion bible Elle, who befriends the show's title character. IMDB.COM

'Soft news' shows soft on Obama

IntelleVision

YOU DON'T SAY "Ellen DeGeneres and Joy Behar aren't going to swing the election," writes Howard Kurtz in the Washington Post, to which most of us will mutter a silent prayer of thanks. "But in an age when candidates have to sell themselves as personalities, not just policymakers, the climate has been far more hospitable for Obama."

Even if you were completely "in the tank" for U.S. president-elect Barack Obama — the phrase is the prime contribution made by the 2008 U.S. election to our shared vocabulary — it would be hard to deny either half of Kurtz's verdict: that "soft news" and entertainment shows have become as important (if not more important) than hard news programs in the election cycle, and that they were, almost without exception, unashamed of their obvious bias toward the Democrat candidate.

This observation has been a staple of discussions in the world of blogs and online media, but you can't help but wonder why the Post's influential media columnist waited until the day before the election to fess up and agree.

"Ellen DeGeneres, David Letterman and panelists on The View all confronted McCain," wrote Kurtz, "while Obama has basically joked and danced his way through such appearances, including a Daily Show stint last week in which Jon Stewart asked him about 'the whole socialism/Marxist thing.' If anyone doubts there is a liberal entertainment establishment, it has been vividly on display."

Obama ceased to be an underdog candidate months ago, and now that he's on his way to the White House, shouldn't the satirists and "speak truth to power" professionals be recalibrating their sights and prepping the new target? Well, maybe.

"The media is kind of madly in love with Obama," Saturday Night Live writer James Downey is quoted as saying in a Salon.com piece, adding that he's "such a smooth character that he doesn't give you many handles." Comedian Will Durst agreed, saying, "If I try doing race jokes about Obama you can hear the sphincters tighten up faster than lug nuts on a '57 Ford."

Some members of the "satirical-industrial complex" — as it was dubbed by Jon Stewart — might secretly have been hoping for a McCain victory, and Durst admitted that Sarah Palin was regarded as "methadone" for comics and writers about to be deprived of material with the end of the Bush presidency.

With Tina Fey hanging up her red power suit and bouffant wig, writes Salon, "an Obama era almost certainly promises to be less funny," a deficit that probably indicates a lack of will as much as material.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

CTV

The View co-hosts, from left, Elisabeth Hasselbeck, Whoopi Goldberg, Barbara Walters and Joy Behar.

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		218	345	11 E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	*Secret Lives* (2005, Suspense) Daphne Zuniga.				News (N)
		137	763	13 TFO	Panorama		Météo	Aventures	*Moderato Cantabile* ★★ (1960, Drame)			Folie-aventure	Volt
		-	-	14 -	Cold Case "Red Glare"		News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
		213	326	15 SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Smallville "Bloodline" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
		-	387	16 CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Gabon (N)		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	385	17 NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Name Is Earl	Kath & Kim (N)	The Office (N)	30 Rock	ER "Oh, Brother" (N)		News (N)
		-	386	18 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty "Crush'd" (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:01) Life on Mars		News
		219	346	20 ACH-B	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Hole in the Wall		America's Next Top Model		(10:01) Eleventh Hour		News (N)
		-	-	28 FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Kitchen Nightmares (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61 PBS	News-Lehrer	Gdnight Sweet	American Experience "Nixon" (DVS)						Business Rpt.
		297	652	330 WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Bloodline" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		CW11 News at Ten (N)		Two/Half Men
		296	654	331 SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		WBZ News (N)	Phantom	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
		298	653	332 TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news		502	390	26 NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour Ray Anderson.		CBC News: The National		The Adventurers (N)		National
		500	500	33 CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
		509	504	79 CNB	Kudlow & Company		On the Money		To Be Announced		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports		405	417	22 net	NHL Hockey Toronto Maple Leafs at Boston Bruins. (Live)					Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Connected		Hockey Central
		400	400	30 TSN	That's Hockey!	NFL Films	NFL Football Denver Broncos at Cleveland Browns. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre
		411	457	58 OLN	Ed's Up	Videos	Commando: On the Front Line		Survivorman		Pilot Guides Specials		Bull Riding
		417	406	81 SC	Pinks	Pass Time	Pinks -- All Out		Pinks -- All Out (HDTV)		Wrecked (N)	Wrecked	Pinks (HDTV)
family		551	542	25 YTV	H2O, Just Add	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Sabrina-Witch	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Adrenaline Proj	Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45 TEL	George-Jungle	Bugs Bunny & Tweety Show		Wayside	Johnny Test	Futurama	The Critic	Robot Chicken	Code Monkeys
		556	540	51 FAM	Wizards-Place	That's-Raven	Zack & Cody	Naturally Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety		602	567	27 W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Divine Designs	Real Est	Love It-List It
		570	580	29 MM	Greek		Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Hot & Wet 2008		Greek		Muchmsc Ctdn
		615	520	31 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		Crime 360
		700	800	35 TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	*La Dolce Vita* ★★★ (1960, Drama) Marcello Mastroianni.				Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
		571	581	36 MMM	mmmtop	Back In	MuchMoreMusic Live		Listed		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Party of Five
		575	583	38 CMT	Tara Diaries	The Wilkinsons	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Gone Country
		616	521	39 SHO	Painkiller Jane		ReGenesis		Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Saving Grace (HDTV)		House
		620	523	40 BVO	Desperate Housewives		Camera	In the Mind ...	Detective Murdoch Mysteries "Under the Dragon's Tail"				Law & Order
		601	562	41 SLC	End of Leash	ET Canada	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		X-Weighted "Gala"		The Biggest Loser		Rich Poor
		522	506	43 HIS	NCIS "The Bone Yard"		Lost Worlds Kama Sutra.		Exploring Hitler's Mountain		NCIS "The Bone Yard"		Crime Stories
		625	548	44 COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Choc. News	Daily Show
		600	564	46 H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Holmes on Homes		The Fix	Disaster DIY	Home to Flip	Real Renos (N)	Holmes-Homes
		294	529	47 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	*Starship Troopers* (1997, Science Fiction)		
		576	582	49 BET	106 & Park	Black Carpet	*Waist Deep* ★ (2006, Action) Tyrese Gibson, Larenz Tate.				American Gangster (N)		Comic View
		627	528	50 SPC	Lost "The Hunting Party"		Star Trek: Voyager		Battlestar Galactica		Famous Monster		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	52 MTV	Busted	After	MTV News	Cribs	Cribs Wildest Antics		MTV Presents: Summer		MTV Live
		618	524	54 TROP	Beverly Hills, 90210		Make or Break	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
		603	561	56 FOOD	The Main	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Jamie's Kitchen Australia (N)		Restaurant
		261	394	60 V	Murder, She Wrote		Wait for God	Keeping Up	*Charlotte Gray* ★★ (2001, Drama) Cate Blanchett, Billy Crudup.				
		621	527	63 STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		TMZ (N)	etalk	Look-A-Like	Live at eTalk	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
		553	546	65 TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Toot & Puddle	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
		115	711	101 TVA	La Fièvre de la danse (SC)		Occupation double			Vlog (SC)	TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
		126	730	102 RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		526	507	249 CLT	Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		The West Wing "Liftoff"		Passion	Homicide File	Psychic Inv.
		300	601	301 M1	(7:15) *'Til Lies Do Us Part* (2007, Drama), Paula Trickey				*Rails & Ties* ★★ (2007, Drama) Kevin Bacon.				*August Rush*
		305	612	306 PIX	(7:10) *Alvarez Kelly* ★★★ (1966, Western)				*On Her Majesty's Secret Service* ★★★ (1969, Action) George Lazenby.				

critics' corner

Masterworks

It's called "Citizen Lambert: Joan of Architecture," but the subject of this new documentary is no martyr. Phyllis Lambert is a visionary architect who has had a hand in such landmarks as the Toronto-Dominion Centre and New York's Seagram Building. She's also the founder of the internationally renowned Canadian Centre for Architecture. The film, released the year she turned 80, paints a fascinating portrait of the public and private Lambert. 10 PM on TVO

The Nature of Things

Mummies and temples and forts, oh, my! This installment of the new four-part series "The Adventurers" follows Egyptologist Tony Mills to the Dakleh Oasis Project — site of half a million years of uninterrupted human habitation. It's a rare treasure chest for archaeologists, with everything from ancient Egyptian temples and tombs to Roman fortresses and Coptic churches. You may find yourself getting as excited about these finds as he is. 8 PM on CBC

No Mamma Mia! sequel in works

FILMS Mamma Mia! composer Benny Andersson has shot down rumours he's working on a sequel to the movie adaptation of the hit stage show, imdb.com reports.

The summer release, which is based on the songs of pop stars Abba, has become a major box office smash internationally, grossing more than $559 million US worldwide.

But Abba's Andersson insists Universal Pictures bosses have yet to approach him about a followup.

"There is no talk of a sequel," he says. "(But they) would like a sequel because they're just flabbergasted at the success — more than anyone, I think."

However, that does not mean Andersson and songwriting partner Bjorn Ulvaeus are not interested in the project if screenwriter Catherine Johnson pens a new plotline. "If she comes up with something, if she's keen on it, then maybe she'll call us."

The 2008 film starred Hollywood actress Meryl Streep and actors Pierce Brosnan and Colin Firth.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

See complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

Radcliffe loving big-city life
Harry Potter star Daniel Radcliffe is enjoying his run in Broadway play Equus — because he can go unrecognized in the busy New York streets. **IMDB.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

HELLO! Hot shot of the week

PETER BREGG/HELLO! CANADA

eTalk and Canadian Idol host Ben Mulroney, 32, marries stylist Jessica Brownstein, 29, in an Oct. 30 ceremony at Montreal's St. Patrick's Basilica. Mulroney had harboured a secret crush on Brownstein for 10 years and finally plucked up courage to ask her out 18 months ago. He says his blueprint for marriage was supplied by his parents, former prime minister Brian Mulroney and wife Mila, above. "They rallied around each other and made each other stronger," he tells HELLO! Canada, which covered the wedding exclusively.

HELLO! CANADA magazine, now available on newsstands – read more at hellomagazine.ca

Nip/tuck for Moore? Maybe

SURGERY Julianne Moore would consider having plastic surgery, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress insists she would not rule out having a nip and tuck operation when she is older.

"I never say never," she says.

However, Moore voiced her concerns about celebrities who take cosmetic procedures to the extreme, likening it to the ancient Chinese ritual of feet-binding.

"At what point did they decide that small feet were more beautiful? People started making them smaller and smaller until they were stumps and not beautiful at all," Moore told Tatler magazine.

"I feel we have decided that being expressionless and young looking is the most beautiful thing and, in pursuit of that, it becomes more and more exaggerated and totally obliterates what we look like."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Posh, Becks wear 'magic' necklaces

JEWELRY Victoria and David Beckham have given each other "magic" necklaces, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The couple believe the mystical jewelry will keep them safe.

"The energy they emit is incredibly powerful. These pieces act as talismans of love, healing and protection," Victoria reportedly said.

The Japanese gold and silver necklaces are gifts to each other to celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary in July next year.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

GETTY IMAGES

Emma Watson's got drama in life

DATING Harry Potter star Emma Watson is dating a drama student, according to reports.

The 18-year-old actress is said to have met Angus Willoughby, 19, while studying at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London, imdb.com reports. The pair is now said to be planning a trip to Willoughby's hometown of Perth, Australia, according to the Daily Telegraph.

Watson was previously linked to another drama student.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Hathaway's new man named

DATING The identity of Anne Hathaway's new boyfriend has been revealed — he's actor Adam Shulman, imdb.com reports.

The 26-year-old actress last month said she had found love again, five months after splitting from her jailed boyfriend of four years, Raffaello Follieri.

She refused to reveal his name, but the new couple have been caught together enjoying a break in New Orleans, where Hathaway is promoting her new movie Rachel Getting Married.

Shulman, 27, the former star of the TV series American Dreams, confessed to Life + Style magazine, "We met through mutual friends," he said.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jolie just a punk, inked kid at heart

LIFE Knives, bisexual romances, tattoos. Despite being a mother of six, Angelina Jolie says her rebellious past remains part of who she is, usmagazine.com reports: "I am still, at heart — and always will be — just a punk kid with tattoos."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Next wedding will be the last, Simpson says

RELATIONSHIPS With her relationship with football player Tony Romo approaching the one-year mark, Jessica Simpson is gaining some perspective on her life and loves, People.com reports.

"I'd always fall for guys I wanted to save," the singer, 28, tells Cosmopolitan for its December issue (on sale Nov. 11). "For the first time, I fell in love with someone who saved me."

As for where the road with Romo, also 28, may take her, Simpson says, "I think any person who I'm going to date for longer than six months, I definitely am investing in something long term. If I get married again, then it will be the last time."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No women for Simon

DATING American Idol judge Simon Cowell says he's "off women," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

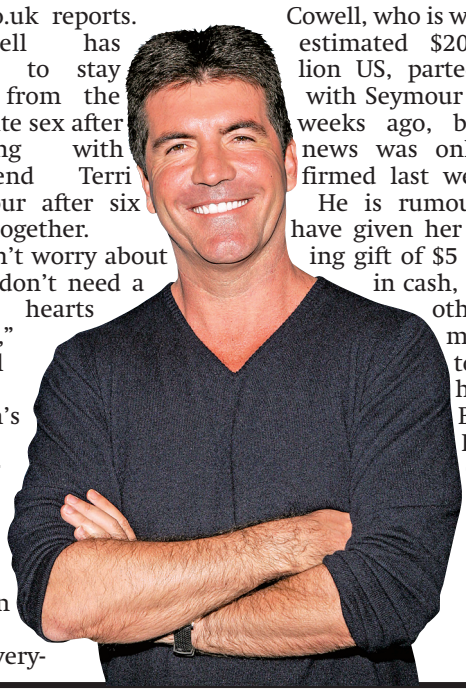
Cowell has vowed to stay away from the opposite sex after splitting with girlfriend Terri Seymour after six years together.

"Don't worry about me. I don't need a lonely hearts advert," Cowell told Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper. "I'm off women now. But everything's fine between me and Terri, we're still friends."

Cowell, who is worth an estimated $200 million US, parted ways with Seymour several weeks ago, but the news was only confirmed last weekend.

He is rumoured to have given her a parting gift of $5 million in cash, and another $4.6 million to buy a house in Beverly Hills, Calif.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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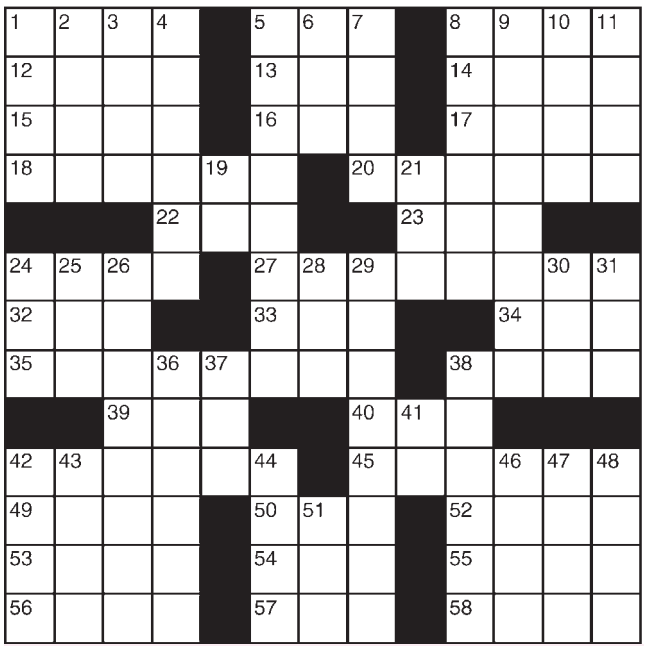
Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	7		5	6				
	5		3				7	2
		1	8			6		
						4	5	3
9				4				1
4	8	2						
		8			9	3		
6	1				7		2	
				5	3		1	

Crossword across

1 Prospector's hope
5 Tie up the phone
8 Distort
12 Eye layer
13 Have bills
14 Tower city
15 Stationer's quantity
16 "— the ramparts ..."
17 "Meet Me — Louis"
18 Like debts
20 Thingie
22 Pigs' digs
23 Solidify
24 Harbour structure
27 Airy
32 George's brother
33 Exist
34 Heady quaff
35 Bliss
38 Sailors' hoosegow
39 Listener
40 "CSI" evidence
42 Balance
45 Sent packing, at a talent show
49 Bakery buys
50 2008 Texas hurricane
52 "— want for Christmas"
53 Caspian feeder
54 Meadow
55 Subject, usually
56 Withered
57 Pitch
58 Competent

Crossword down

1 Mentor
2 Microwave, e.g.
3 Bound
4 Grayish red
5 Tire company
6 Idolater's feeling
7 Opera composer Alban
8 Arachnophobe's worry
9 Mad monarch of drama
10 Being, to Brutus
11 Power measure
19 Tagged player
21 Time of your life?
24 Conk out
25 Tulsa sch.
26 1962 Peck movie remade with De Niro in 1991
28 Numerical prefix
29 Millinery
30 "The Greatest"
31 Journey segment
36 Big bother
37 Raw rock
38 Split need
41 "Fuhgeddaboudit!"
42 Comic strip penguin
43 Pink-slip
44 Pinball no-no
46 Amorphous mass
47 Hebrew month
48 Eat in style
51 Mauna —

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

M	O	L	D		I	R	E		G	L	U	M		
O	V	E	R		D	A	Y		R	I	P	E		
N	A	V	I	G	A	T	E		A	T	O	M		
O	L	I	V	E			D	I	V	I	N	E		
			E	M	U	S		P	E	G				
A	K	I	N		S	A	G	S		A	S	H		
N	O	R		J	E	L	L	O		T	E	E		
A	I	R		E	R	S	E		B	E	A	M		
		I	C	E		A	N	T	E					
B	O	G	A	R	T			A	G	N	E	W		
E	L	A	N		O	B	L	I	G	A	T	E		
R	I	T	E		B	O	O		A	D	A	R		
G	O	E	S		Y	A	W		R	A	T	E		

8	4	1	9	7	3	2	6	5
3	2	7	6	5	4	8	9	1
9	6	5	1	2	8	3	4	7
4	5	3	2	6	7	1	8	9
2	8	9	5	4	1	6	7	3
7	1	6	3	8	9	5	2	4
1	7	4	8	3	2	9	5	6
5	3	8	4	9	6	7	1	2
6	9	2	7	1	5	4	3	8

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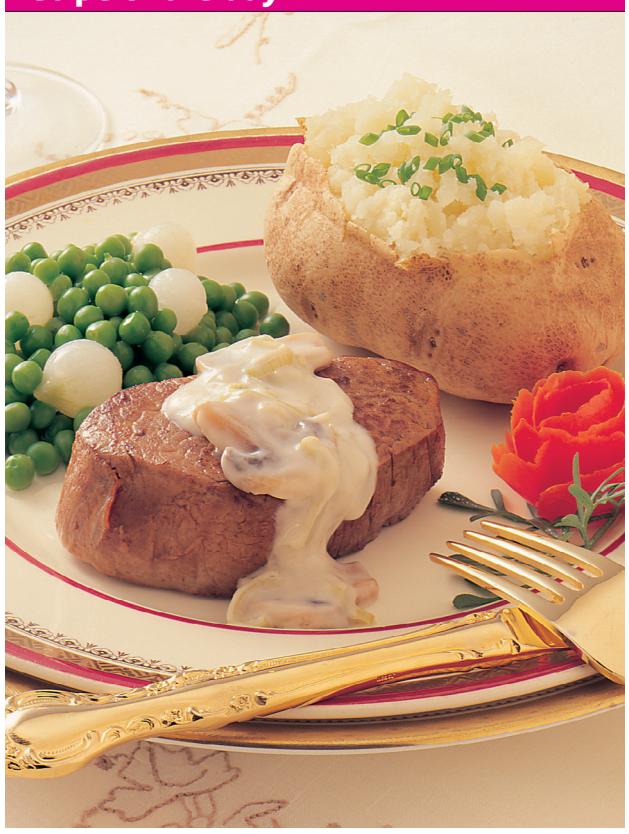
SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Recipe of the day



Melt-in-your-mouth Filets with Mushroom Sauce

INGREDIENTS:
1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil
4 beef tenderloin steaks or 2 top loin steaks, 1 inch (2.5 cm) thick, trimmed
1 ½ cups (375 mL) sliced fresh mushrooms
½ cup (125 mL) sliced leek
½ cup (125 mL) dry white wine or low-sodium chicken broth
1/8 tsp (0.5 mL) each salt and black pepper
½ cup (125 mL) reduced-fat sour cream
1 tbsp (15 mL) all-purpose flour

METHOD:
1. Heat oil in a skillet over medium-high heat. Add steaks. Lower heat to medium and cook until medium-rare or to taste, turning often. Transfer to a platter and cover with foil.

2. For sauce, add the mushrooms, leek, wine, salt and pepper to drippings in skillet. Bring to boil, then lower heat and simmer, uncovered, until mushrooms are tender.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Watch out for the tricks played by a friend. A childish quarrel is not your problem. Suspicious minds will disappoint you.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Money will be found by searching. Make a quick escape from a miserable fool. The facts of life will cause people to flock around you.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
An outrageous adventure can dispel anxiety. An old friend won't help if things aren't running properly. An obnoxious person gives in to oncoming love.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
Someone's bad luck is not your fault. A scary episode concerns misuse of power. You'll get upset over a woman's lack of loyalty.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
Do a daring deed for a friend. A gossip session becomes unusual. Someone will be asked to leave.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
This is no time to show up unannounced. Job stress will be noticeable. Make up your own mind about unmanageable feelings.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A kiss will change your mind about someone. You're amused by essential advice. Don't irritate anyone by telling the truth.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
Trust your instincts when an encounter baffles you. A cruel monster drives you wild with desire. Disapproval humiliates an insecure woman.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
Get ready for an admirer's warped sense of humour. Bad manners won't be boring. Unexpected good cheer causes a reconciliation.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A mirthful loser has some plans. The boss expects more positive attention. Someone's creativity will give you a thrill.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
A dynamic interaction strikes like lightening. Phenomenal good fortune is shared with you. Your tactfulness will have an amazing effect.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
A gift arrives from a man who refuses to respect boundaries. A woman will try to catch up on lost sleep. You'll have unusual luck.

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2008 Limited model shown

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™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trade marks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp., and used under licence. ♦Cash purchase price adjustments are for cash purchases only and are calculated against the lease/finance starting price. Cash purchase price adjustments are available on all 2008 Entourage/2008 Santa Fe trims. Cash purchase prices for models shown: 2008 Entourage Limited/2008 Santa Fe Limited 7-passenger of $31,495/$30,945. Delivery and Destination charges of ($1,610/$1,610) excluded. Registration, insurance, licence fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas.‡Purchase Financing available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services on 2008 Entourage L/2008 Santa Fe GL 2.7L FWD 5-speed with a nominal finance rate of 0%/0% for 72/72 month terms. Financing examples: $15,000 at 0% per annum equals $208.33 per month for 72 months. C.O.B. is $0.00 for a total obligation of $15,000. Effective finance rates are partially based on the cash purchase adjustment foregone by financing a new 2008 Entourage L/2008 Santa Fe GL 5-speed with an effective finance rate of 14.66%/8.43% for 72/72 months. ♦xOffers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. ΨGovernment star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). U.S. Model tested with standard side-impact airbags (SABs). ▼The XM name and logos are registered trade marks of XM Satellite Radio Inc. ΔSee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.